THE INDEPENDENT

THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE LUXURY HOTEL OFFER TWO NIGHTS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE

'Once you kill people because you don't like what they say, you change the rules of war'



HANGING upside-down from the wreckage was a dead man, in his fifties perhaps, although a benevolent grey dust had covered his face. Not far away, also upside-down - his legs trapped between tons of concrete and steel - was a younger man in a pullover, face grey, blood dribbling from his head on

to the rubhle beneath. Deep inside the tangle of cement and plastic and iron, in what had once been the makeup room next to the broadcasting studio of Serb Television, was all that was left of a young woman, burnt alive when Nato's missile exploded in the radio control room. Within six hours, the Secretary of State for International Development, Clare Short declared the place a "legitimate target".

It wasn't an argument worth debating with the wounded one of them a young technician who could only be extracted from the hundreds of tons of



ROBERT FISK IN BELGRADE

concrete in which he was encased by amputating both his legs. Nor with the silent hundreds who gathered in front of the still-smoking ruin at dawn vesterday, lost for words as they stood in the little glade of trees beside St Marko's Cathedral, where Belgrade's red and cream trams turn round. A Belgrade fireman pulled at one of the bodies for all of 30 seconds before he realised that the man, swinging hack and forth

amid the wreckage, was dead.

By dusk last night, 10

women - had been tugged from man had died in hospital and 15 other technicians and secretaries still lay huried. A fireman reported hearing a voice from opened, turning into mud the muck and dust of a huilding that Ms Short had declared to be a

"propaganda machine". We had all wondered how long it would be before Nato decided that Radio Televizja Srbije should join the list of "military" targets. Spokesmen had long objected to its crude propaganda - it included a Nato symbol turning into a swastika and a montage of Madeleine Albright growing Dracula teeth in

front of a hurning huilding. It never reported on the tens of thousands of Albanian refugees who spoke of executions and "ethnic cleansing" in Kosovo. It endlessly repeated films that depicted Yugoslav soldiers as idealised heroes de-

crushed bodies - two of them fending their country. It carried soporific tapes of President beneath the concrete, another Slobodan Milosevic meeting natriarchs, cossacks, Russian envoys and the Kosovo Albanian leader Ibrahim Rugova. The channel was showing an the depths as the heavens American interview with Mr Milosevic when the first cruise missile smashed into the station's control room just after two o'clock yesterday morning.

But did this justify killing the night staff in their studios and taping rooms? Two weeks ago, Nato's spokesmen had been suggesting that RTS would have to carry six hours of Western television a day if it was to survive - CNN's bland, safe coverage of events presumably offering some balance to the rubbish churned out on the RTS news. But once Nato decided this was as preposterous as it was impracticable, its spokesman announced that the Nato targets. Then, on Monday.

hoys in Belgrade that they a thunderous explosion and a should pull out of the RTS of-mile-high cloud of dust as four plenty when it was ethnically fices. Against the wishes of other Nato nations, so the word went, General Wesley Clark transmitters and people into a had decided to bomb Serb television. CNN withdrew from the huilding in Takovska Street. And that night, we were all invited to have coffee and orange juice in the studios.

The huilding was likely to be a target of the "Nato aggressor", according to Goran Matic. a Yugoslav federal minister, as he walked us through the ground floor of the doomed huilding. Yet, oddly, we did not take him seriously. Even when the air raid siren sounded, I stayed for another coffee.

Surely Nato wouldn't waste its bombs on this tiresome station with its third-rate propaganda and old movies, let alone kill its staff.

Yesterday morning, the moment I heard the cruise missile CNN's bosses called up from scream over my hotel roof, 1

Atlanta to inform the satellite knew I was wrong. There was storeys collapsed to the ground, sandwiching offices, machines, pile of rubble only 15 feet high. Yet, within six hours, Serb

television was back on the air, beaming its programmes from secret transmitters, the female anchorwoman reading the news from pieces of pink paper between pre-recorded films of Serbian folk-songs and ancient Orthodox churches. All along the Serbs had been ready for just such an attack. We had not believed Nato capable of such ferocity. The Serbs had.

The crowds still stood in the park as darkness fell, watching the men with drills punching their way through the concrete for more survivors. By that time, explanations were flowing from Nato's hirthday celebrations in Washington, Serbia's "propaganda machine" had been prolonging the war. I wonder I seem to recall Croatian Nato was forced to television spreading hatred abeen a mistake? Yes, Serbian television could cleansing 170,000 Serbs from

bomb Zagreb. And when Pres-

ldent Franjo Tudjman's lads

were massacring Serbs and

Muslims alike in Bosnia, we

didn't bomb his residence. Was

Serbian television's real sin its

broadcast of film of the Nato

massacre of Kosovo Albanian

refugees last week, killings that

be hateful, biased, bad. It was Croatia in 1995. But we didn't owned by the government But once you kill people because you don't like what they say, you have changed the rules of war. And that's what Nato did in Belgrade in the early hours of yesterday morning.

Full reports, pages 2-4 Leading article. Review page 3

Car gunmen fire on bus queue

FIVE PEOPLE were shot by a man firing indiscriminately at hystanders during a 30-mile car chase yesterday. Victims included a 75-year-old man at a bus-stop, who was hit hy the gunman firing an AK-47 as he hung out of the window of a hijacked car being pursued across Lancashire and Greater

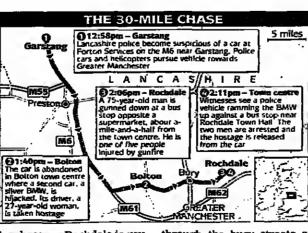
The female owner had been taken hostage hut escaped when police rammed the car. Two men were arrested and a third was cornered in a house in Greater Manchester.

The incident, three days after the murder of 13 people by two teenagers at a school in Denver in the US, will reopen the debate about the availability of firearms in Britain.

BY IAN BURRELL Home Affairs Correspondent

Yesterday's incident began at 1.20pm, when a car at Garstang service station on the M6 near Lancaster failed to stop for a police patrol vehicle, prompting a chase. Outside Manchester the gang abandoned their car and seized a BMW at gunpoint, under the surveillance of a police helicopter. There were reports of shots. Three police Range Rovers pursued the car towards Rochdale.

Witnesses said a man was hanging out of the window, pep-pering passers-by with bullets. The guy was leaning out of the passenger side (of the car) shooting at people. It's shock- said the car was speeding cers recovered an AK-47 assault



ing, because Rochdale is usu- through the busy streets at ally quite a quiet little place; about 90mph, Police rammed it nothing really happens," said into a bus-stop in Rochdale Martin Rhodes, 39. Shoppers town centre at 2.11pm. Offi-

rifle and a pistol. A police juries to his arm and was unof police officers and members men, aged 46 and 75, had gunof the public had firearms point- shot wounds to the legs. ed at them and shots were fired. Six members of the public have been injured.

"No police were injured. Rochdale town centre has been cordoned off ... Two men are being interviewed in connection with the incident."

Outside Rochdale Infirmary a woman, who asked not to be identified, said: "My husband has been shot in the shoulder as far as I know. I'm very worried about him." Robert Clegg. chief executive of Rochdale Health Care NHS Trust, confirmed three men had been admitted with gunshot injuries. A 51-year-old man had in-

spokesman for said: "A number dergoing surgery. Two other He added: "None of the gun-

> ening and the relatives who had been informed were at the bedsides. Two other gunshot victims were being treated in Bury and Oldham. The spokesman said a 72-

> year-old woman, who escaped being shot despite being at a hus-stop which was sprayed with bullets, had been brought in with chest pains after witnessing the shootings. A 27-year-old woman, be-

> lieved to be the woman taken hostage, had been brought in with severe shock.

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High school massacre US authorities accused of ignoring warnings Foreign P15

Euro weakness fears The US thinks growth in the euro area is too slow | month. Kevin Jackson and is urging EU action Business P17

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RATES APPLY 24 Hrs 7 DAYS A WEEK!!! 5p Canada Australia Hong Kong 10p shot injuries were life-threat-26p China New Zealand 7p Japan 8p **Philippines** 21p Israel 10p France 8p India 37p South Africa Our Space age technology brings you the lowest rates in the solar system! THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD Call free now on 0800 036 2010

"Such criminals as Clinton and Blair could not have been born by any mother. By comparison, even Hitler was but a little child"

Aleksandar Vucic, Tony Blair, Prime Minister | Serbian Information Minister

"This is a war, this is a serious conflict, untold horrors are being done. The propaganda machine is prolonging the war and it's a legitimate target"

"[Milosevic] has to be prepared to take his troops out... stop the killing and allow a significant... Nato-led force in"

Ken Bacon, US DefenseDepartment spokesman

"The situation in the [Pristina] hospital is tragic. They are using thread from blankets for stitches"

Nikipas Kanakis, Greek branch Doctors of the World

"We're bombing and bombing and it's not doing anything, so people are saying we need to move toward ground troops" Brent Scowcroft, former US national security adviser

Nato sets out terms to end war

SUMMIT

BY COLIN BROWN AND MARY DEJEVSKY in Washington

NATO LEADERS offered last was seen by President Clinton Yugoslavia if President Slobodan Milosevic accepts their five did not meet two key demands conditions for peace and begins withdrawing his troops from Kosovo. Such an acceptance would amount to a surrender by Milosevic which few see as likely at this stage of the conflict.

We are willing to end the military campaign when we are clear that those objectives are actually being accepted in good faith and are being acted upon," Foreign Secretary Robin Cook said at the Nato summit in Washington.

However, Nato also signalled a shift in position saying that it would be seeking United Nations eodorsement for any settlement in Kosovo. Significantly a three-page statement issued last night did oot mention the possibility of a ground invasion by Nato troops, a subject on which alliance leaders are divided. Instead it referred to an "international force" which would have Nato at its core, but would include forces friendly to

The leaders also called for "an embargo on petroleum products" still flowing into Yu-goslavia. The United States bas proposed boarding and searching ships in the Adriatic suspected of supplying oil to A separate peace initiative

by Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Russian envoy, was rejected last night by Nato leaders who made a commitment to inteosify the bombing to force Slobodan Milosevic to meet all their demands for a settlemeot of the conflict.

The Russian move, which Mr Chernomyrdin wanted to dis-

night to end the air strikes on and Tony Blair as an attempt to split Nato. The Russian overture

- the removal of Milosevic's forces from Kosovo and the emplacement of an armed international peacekeeping force, Nato leaders said.

Mr Chernomyrdin had threateoed to gatecrash the Nato summit, disrupting the Anglo-US show of unity to continue the bombing until Milosevic relented.

The initiative would have ruled out Nato forces by insisting that no troops from "aggressor nations" would be allowed into Kosovo. Although, for the first time. Milosevic cooceded that they should be armed. He also offered to reduce rather than withdraw all his forces from Kosovo.

Even so, the Nato leaders sought to avoid the impressioo of a burniliating snub to the Russian envoy. "We do appreciate what the Russians are trying to do but Mr Chernomyrdin has said that what he is getting from Belgrade doesn't go nearly far enough. It might be better if he worked on them. There is a very busy agenda here," said the Prime Minister's official spokesman, Alastair Camp-

Nato leaders side-stepped the issue of deploying ground troops which threatened to split the alliance by uniting instead behind a broad declaration by Javier Solana, the Nato secretary-general, that the military campaign so far ruling out ground forces should be updated and reviewed.

However, there were continuing signs of tensions at the summit, with US sources equivcuss with summit leaders today, ocating about the deployment of by Mr Blair's spokesman after crashing offer irritated the porters.



Tony Blair and President Bill Clinton at the opening of the Nato 50th anniversary summit in Washington yesterday

who continued to take a more hawkish stand, warned that Milosevic should not have a veto over the deployment of ground troops. This in turn has has unsettled Italy and Greece.

Gerhard Schröder, the German Chancellor, was described

as "absolutely rock solid" behind plans to intensify the Nato campaign this weekend in an effort to break Milosevic resistance. Mr Schröder confirmed he wanted a "robust" international force in Kosovo.

Mr Chernomyrdin's gate-

ground troops while Mr Blair, a meeting between the leaders British camp, triggering suspicions that it was arranged in tandem with Serbia, "Everyone is used to the games Milosevic is playing and we are tired of them," said the Prime Minister's official spokesman. "Don't just dance every time Milosevic makes a move." he told re-

Nato leaders spent three hours debating the Kosovo action

before endorsing the joint declaration backing the Solana plan. It is likely there will be more air strikes on Serbian broadcasting centres which Nato leaders insisted were legitimate military targets because they were part of Mr Win McNamee/Reuters

"We are not going to stop the prosecution of the campaign this weekend. It will be intensified. We have got to hit Milosevic hard. I don't mean there is an attempt to knock him out personally but we want to take out the apparatus of dictatorship," spokesman said.

BRIEFING: DAY 31

■ Nato said its aircraft

ice

had destroyed a Yugoslav artillery battery in Kosovo, as well as a troop convoy, six tanks and a brigade command post during attacks over the previous 24 hours. Cruise missiles, launched from ships in the Adriatic, also struck electricity transformers in the Belgrade area. ■ United Nations agencies have asked national governments for \$625m (£390m) to fund relief operations for the refugees. The amount is based on the needs of 950,000 refugees until June.

Finland says it will take ahout 1,000 refugees from camps in Macedonia over the next few weeks. starting with 164 arrivals next Monday. ■ Switzerland is to take 2.500 refugees after a request from the UN High Commission for Refugees. Priority will be given to people who already have relatives in the country. ■ Germany says it may take in more refugees. despite having already flown 10,000 people from makeshift camps. During the past 24 hours, 28 aid flights have arrived in Albania. delivering 11 tons of food and water, 19 flights have arrived in Macedonia, with 93 tons of food and water and five tons of medical supplies. ■ The UNHCR is predicting an influx of refugees into Albania. More than 212,000

Birthday party becomes an uncertain council

"AS WE meet in Washington half-century. In the three weeks troops in any conflict on the convery serious crisis. Images of April, the mechanics and the hundreds of thousands of deported people, burnt bomes and destroyed villages recall images we hoped never to see

These were the words of secretary-general, opening the inaugural session yesterday of what had been planned as a cel-

30

ж.

purpose of the gathering have been transformed.

The favourite cliché in Washington was that a birthday party had become a council of war. For the pessimistic, the party Javier Solana, the Nato bad become a wake for an alliance whose time and credibility were exhausted.

Nato, which had prided itself ebration of the alliance's first on never having engaged its

today, Europe is confronting a since the anniversary on 4 tinent of Europe, and oo keeping the peace through the deterrent force of military strength, is marking its 50th anniversary at war. A generation of leaders, many of whom cut their political teeth in the antiwar movements of the Sixties, bave ordered troops into the first serious armed conflict in Europe since the Second World War. And Britain, with Tony

Blair speaking repeatedly of a

ANNIVERSARY

When Mr Blair and the other 18 allied leaders assembled at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center in Washington, the mood was sombre. General Hugh Shelton and

General Wesley Clark, the

BRITAIN TODAY

"just war", is once again in the Supreme Allied Commander. vanguard, at least of the Europe, were due to open the gathering by giving allied leaders a briefing oo the state of the conflict in Kosovo. The ensuing discussion was to consider urgent practicalities, such as: could the alliance remain united if military action were intensified. "We have done everything

deot Bill Clinton.

This uncertain council of war is not what Washington had planned to mark what US officials had been calling for months "the most successful military alliance in history". There was to have been be a flypast and a march-past incorporating the three new alliance members - the Czech Repub-

we could to resolve this matter hic, Hungary and Poland. There grade. Then the march-past and another for all 44 members of the alliance and its post cold war affiliate, the Partnership for Peace. Russia was to have been

an honoured guest. In the past three weeks, almost every element was rethought or scrapped. First to go was the fly-past, judged inappropriate at a time when

peacefully, but when we fight, we was to have heen a White was dropped. Last night's ala "small dinner".

people are expected.

Yesterday morning, the thoroughfares of ceremonial Washington were almost deserted: a security cordon in peration for almost a mile around kept all hut delegates

and journalists away. Until Sunday, this is a secure area in a capital which



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KEY Noon today FORECAST

General situation: Central and eastern parts of England will start dull with out-breaks of rain. Much of the east will remain cloudy and damp all day but the Mud-lands will join Wales and the West Country with a mot of sunny spells and only isolated showers by this afternoon. Northern Ireland will start largely dry but showers will break out. Eastern Scotland will have some rain and it will be cool on Coasts facing the south-east breeze. Eisewhere in Scotland there will be sunny spells and only the odd shower.

London, SE & E Angla: A dull start with some rain around this morning, but it will gradually become drier and a little brighter. A light and variable wind, Marcemp 12-15C (54-59F). Cast 5 England, Middlands: Starting cloudy and damp but some somy spells will develop by this afternoon. A light and variable wind. Max temp 12-15C (54-59F).

Channel Is, SW England, Wales, NW England, Lake Dist, late of Man: Some sunshine and only isolated showers, although doud will build in the lat southwest this afternoon. A light south-westerly wind. Max temp 12-15C (54-59F). E England, Cost N & NE England; Dull with periods of tain but slowly bright-ching inland. A fight 90uth-easterly wind. Max temp 11-14C (52-57F). NE & SE Scotland, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, N Islas: Generally cloudy with rain at times. Drier and brighter inland later. A light south-easterly wind. Mar temp 11-14C (52-57F): cooler on coast.

NW 6: SW Scotland, Glasgom, W Isles: Sunny spells and only isolated shorthefly on the hills. A light southerly wind, Max temp 11-14C (52-57F) N Ireland: Mostly dry at first but sunny spells becoming more limited as shower develop; easing again later. A light south-west wind. Max temp 11-14C (52-57F).

The east of Scotland and England will be mostly cloudy tomorrow but other areas should start dry and bright before rain spreads in from the south-west later. Monday will be mainly dry, the best of any sunny breaks in the west.

London: A12 Green Man Roundabout, London: A12 Green Man Roundabout, Leytonstone, Major methworks on new M11 Ink road, Umil 31st December, Bristol: M5 J18-18. Major Roadworks on Avonmouth Bridge, Umil 23rd June 2001. Wartwickshire: M42 Between J10 Tarmworth services and J5 Suiten Coldridt. Roadworks and contratiow. Umil 23rd April. South Yorkshire: M1 Between J34 Tirsley Vaduct (A6109] 8. J34 Tirsley Viaduct (A6178). Sheffield, Carriageway is reduced to live lanes southbound. Umil 21st Mountmier 2000.

nbound. Diversions in place. Until 1st June. Ca.Antrina: Al Kingsway, Ourmunay, Roadworks, various lane restrictions. Until on new A50. Until 15th Octob AA Roadwatch: Call 0336 401777 for the latest local and national traffic news. Source: The Automobile Association, Calis

charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

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LIGHTING UP

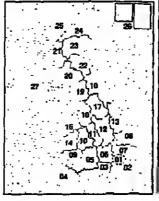
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AIR QUALITY
Today's readings

NO₂ Moderate Good Good Good Good Good

SUN & MOON Sun rises: 05 47 Sun sets: 20.12

WEATHERLINE or the latest forecasts dial 0891 5009 followed by the two digits for your area Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT)



YESTERDAY EXTREMES Murmest: Coltistual 15C (59F)

For 24hrs to 2pm Friday

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Morecambe
Newcastle Ross-on-wye Sakombe Scarborough Southborn 1 f.8 9.4 6.4 4.9

6.8 24 hours to 6pm (GMT) Thursday:

SHINE...

RAIN OR

FLOOD ALERTS were issued yesterday for stretches of 12 rivers after heavy rain. There were amber alerts - of flooding to isolated properties and roads - on the rivers Coly and Upper Axe in Devon, and the Isle in Somerset. There were lower yellow alerts on the Sid, Otter, Yarty, Umborne Brook, Lower Otter, Clyst and Lower Axe in Devon, and the Bride and Frome in Dorset.



THE ATLANTIC NOON TODAY rly move eastwards. High J will

THE WORLD YESTERDAY

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S. C. C. Spice and Section 1

1.2 AMERICAN STREET

حكدا من المدمل

I watched as 'TV Slobbo' turned into voice of hate

PROPAGANDA

BY MARCUS TANNER

TO MANY SERBS, especially in the deep countryside, it is the voice of absolute truth and the means by which "Slobo" communicates his struggle against fascism and the New World Order to his embattled but adoring compatriots. To a small, probably shrinking miority, it is the Bastille - a tress imprisoning the mind of Serbia from the world.

When I first worked in Serbian TV's English-language section in 1988, the Milosevic revolution was a work in progress. Radio Televisija Serbija had scarcely got into its stride. True, the Kosovo Albanians were already called "nationalists and separatists", and even "counter-revolutionaries", but the gloves were still on.

Within two years, the vocabulary of socialism had slipped away to reveal the savage racial hatred which for at least eight years has been RTS's stock in trade.

Since then RTS has turned into a vehicle that whips up genocidal passions, a vital cog in the business of psychologically preparing the entire Serbian nabon for the necessity of exterminating its enemies. The paramilitaries now killing Albanian civilians in Kosovo were reared on a diet of ethnic hatred that poured out of the station. on deep-seated racial fears. In that sense it is a crucial And Milosevic alone under-we pon in Milosevic's war stood the role that television

against the Kosovars. those 7.30pm vesti (news) pro- Berlin Wall was coming down grammes would forget the bate-filled propaganda that collapsing in the face of demo-spilt out over the airwaves cratic challenges everywhere every night for up to an bour from the Baltic to Macedonia. and a half. Nor could they for- in Serbla alone it survived, tone of the presenters, the glee with which they referred to units"; nor could they forget the nists in 1987, displacing his presenters' reliance on the lim-

tashe Fascist", every Bosnian a "mujahadeen", every Albanian a "Shiptar" - a word which has the same connotations when used by outsiders as "nigger" does to black people.

The world has RTS to thank for adding a new phrase to the English language - "ethnic cleansing"-although the phrase has been corrupted; what the RTS broadcasts used to say was that the Yugoslav army was "cleansing the terrain".

Until the mid-1980s, Radio

Televisija Beograd (as it was then) was a dozy Communist news network, whose widely ignored broadcasts were loaded with the impenetrable language of "self-managing socialism". Differences between the Yugoslav republics were concealed in a fog of socialist rhetoric (usually about "the urgent need for cadre differentiation") so that only ideological experts could tell what they were about.

RTS did not mutate into a monster on its own. The man who transformed it was Slobodan Milosevic. More far-sighted than any other Communist leader in Eastern Europe, Milosevic realised the massive popular power that could be harnessed to Serbia's faltering Communist system by playing

could play. No one who ever sat through So it was that while the and Communist parties were cratic challenges everywbere bon by nationalism.

moderate former ally and patron Ivan Stambolic, was the result of his prior takeover of RTS, and the success with which be

installed his allies into the institution. It was their strident anti-Albanian propaganda in the summer and autumn of 1987 that rallied Serbs behind Milosevic, toppled Stambolic, and set Serbia on its present

But it was during the wars with Croatia and Bosnia from 1991 to 1995 that RTS really came into its own. The commentaries after the 7.30 evening news became longer and increasingly intimidating. not only towards "fascist" Croa-

tia and "fundamentalist" Bosnia but towards Milosevic's domestic opponents. It also started labelling political opponents as traitors, virtually inviting their assassination.

Serbia's opposition parties always recognised RTS was their real foe, more important even than the army. It was Vuk Draskovic - now Milosevic's deputy prime minister but in 1991 his bitter opponent - who labelled the beavily-guarded fortress in Belgrade the "Bastille" and who struggled. without success, to force Milosevic to relinquish his grip on this mighty institution.

Milosevic resisted. He would happily distribute ministerial portfolios to several one-time enemies but RTS remains sacrosanct.

In the last few years, challengers emerged. Using the privatisation process - an unwelcome but inevitable process for a government a bankrupt as Milosevic's - a handful of private television and radio stations such as Studio B emerged to provide an alternative world view to RTS's diet of anti-Sernever a serious challenge, as

Serbia's worsening confrontation with the West over the last year saw that threat ex-

Serbia to RTS.



Firefighters battling with flames at the Serbian radio-television building in Belgrade

Milosevic's takeover of the the authorities limited their such as the assassination of the the "liquidation of enemy Serbian League of Commu-range to the vicinity of Bel-newspaper editor Slavko Cugrade, leaving the vast bulk of ruvija, have silenced Serbia's independent media. Once again - unless Nato succeeds completely in taking RTS off the air

Britain 'should take in refugees'

HAVENS By ANDREW GRICE Political Editor

PADDY ASHDOWN told Tony Blair yesterday that Britain should urgently admit thou-sands of Kosovar refugees to head off another humanitarian crisis in the camps across the

borders from their bomeland On his return from a five-day trip to the Balkans, where he acted as an unofficial envoy for the Prime Minister, the Liberal Democrat leader accused British ministers of double standards over the refugees.

Referring to Clare Short, the Secretary of State for International Development, he said: "It doesn't do much good for a British minister to roll up to the Macedonian government and give them a lecture on treating refugees when we in this country are taking 120 and Germany has taken 10,000."

The first Kosovar refugees being taken in by Britain are to arrive in Bradford tomorrow, where they will be housed at a disused mental hospital. But Mr Ashdown warned that Britain's very laggardly" effort on refugees was not belping the pro-Western Macedonian government. They are getting a bit tired of warm words; they want some action" Mr Ashdown said.

The situation in Macedonia was "very fragile" and Nato troops were being stoned by pro-Milosevic locals.

"One of the biggest factors in this war is becoming the instability in Macedonia ... For Milosevic, refugees are an instrument of war. We have to be prepared to win on the refugee battleground just as we have to be prepared to win on every other one".

Mr Ashdown said Nato had very nearly lost the battle 10 days ago, when only Mr Milo-sevic's decision to close the border with Albania had prevented "the terrifying sight of refugees dying in Nato's hands."

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, insisted vesterday that the Government remained ready to admit "some thousands" of refugees.

Belgrade offer was only for unarmed observers

HALF OBSCURED by the real war of bombs and missiles. and equally fierce fighting on the propaganda front, the first proposals have emerged for a Kosovo peace. For the moment, the deadlock between Nato and Belgrade remains complete; the statements thus far are not so much peace feelers as devices to stake out the ground. But if serious bargaining does start, the diplomats will have something, bowever meagre, to

Yesterday, and to no one's surprise, the US and Britain gave short shrift to the latest gambit by Slobodan Milosevic who for the first time since ie conflict began a month ago. fered his assent to some form of international peace-keeping force in the province.

The details relayed to the outside world by the Russian envoy Viktor Chernomyrdin, after a day of talks with the Yugoslav President, are fuzzy: Mr Milosevic apparently would be ready to accept an "international presence" in Kosovo. Obviously it would contain Russians, but who else? Per-

PEACE PROPOSALS

hans Greeks and Italians from Nato, but not those countries which have been carrying out the bombing.

What is more. Belgrade insists the presence should take the form of unarmed observers, rather than the beavily armed force that Nato (and even the Russians) believe is essential. Finally, both Serbs and Russians insist that nothing can happen until Nato unilaterally halts its air campaign.

For the allies, these terms are obviously a non-starter. Quite apart from its understandable reluctance to accept any Milosevic promise, Nato is adamant that while the peacekeeping force might contain troops from non-member countries, it must be Nato-led. with none of the infamous "dual key" arrangements with the United Nations, which bedevilled efforts to keep the peace in Bosnia before 1995.

The reaction of Tony Blair

BY RUPERT CORNWELL clear and they have to be met". be proclaimed, as an allied air strike devastated the head-

quarters of Serbian state tele-

Mr Cbernomyrdin, who

Milosevic, must have expected as much. For one thing, the timing of the proposal is at least as important as its content - a hint of a shift in Belgrade's stance. designed to sow doubt at the Washington summit, exposing latent divisions between Britain, Nato's most bawkisb member, and the US on the one hand, and the more cautious Europeans on the other Unsurprisingly, British officials let it be known that Mr Chernomyrdin should drop any plans be might have had to to turn up in Washington, and strain Nato unity in person.

But on the sidelines of the summit, Nato's nearest equivalent to a peace package - the German initiative unveiled a was icy. Nato's demands "are fortnight ago ~ will be under in-

tensive discussion. Bonn's ideas were initially (and unfairly) described in some quarters as a sell-out. In fact, as its authors insist, the initiative is less a free-standing plan than a "road map" towards securing Nato's five demands, endorsed by Kofi Annan, the United Nations secretary-general.

These are: a halt to military spent most of Thursday with Mr activities: the withdrawal of all Yugoslav security and paramilitary forces from Kosovo; the return of the refugees; and a political settlement on the basis of" the Rambouillet agreement which Belgrade refused to sign.

What is more, the "road map" says the 24-hour balt in the bombing would only start after Serb forces began to with draw. At the first sign Mr Milosevic was reneging on his undertakings, they would restart. For now, equally unsurprisingly, the Yugoslav President will have none of it.

The moment is not yet ripe for a major peace push, but if and when that moment comes, the present shadow boxing will

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Readers give £625,000 READERS SHOULD continue for the Disasters Emergency Appeal money is being used to

Independent's appeal to help the refugees of Kosovo after aid agencies warned about the still-worsening conditions. The total raised by The Independent's appeal is now more than £625,000 but more is needed. "Donations are still coming in but at a slower rate now than

before," warns a spokesman

to send in contributions to The Committee (DEC). The committee is co-ordinating a series of appeals for the refugees of Kosovo, including that of The

The most serious difficulties being faced at the moment are the conditions for local communities in Albania. Macedonia and Montenegro who are hosting Kosovar refugees.

pay for 120,000 baby kits for refugees living with families in Albania. Donations from readers are also being used to buy food, blankets, hygiene kits, cooking equipment, sanitation and essential water purificabon equipment. Medical equipment and antibiotics are being supplied in the south and north-west of Albania.

Children paint the images of terror

REFUGEE CAMPS By STEVE BOGGAN in Kukes, Albania

AT FIRST the damaged children have been more severely trau- an injury sustained to his foot of Kosovo drew pictures of matised. When they first come wheo a grenade was thrown at fairy-tale houses surrounded by here, many are withdrawn or his family during an incident of picture-book flowers, images that surprised the aid workers the other children, and display Three others were killed. who had been brought in to help signs of trauma", says Penelope them. "We asked if this was Lewis, of Unice! "We play some their home, and a surprising simple games with them and for vana Zhezhe, co-ordinator of number said 'No, this is the many the act of just playing and house we will go back to'," said laughing again helps. But there

But, after a few days, the images began to change. Lulzim, year-old girl who was found aged 10, drew tanks bearing abandoned near a mosque on down on a group of houses be- the edge of town. All attempts oeath a sun with a sad face. On to find her mother, one of the one side of the road was a refugees, have so far failed. She mangled body in a violently was taken in by another scribbled pool of blood. The let-refugee - the only other person ters UCK, for Kosovo Libera- she would let near her - and she tioo Army, were writteo oear the body.

Ibrahim's picture was of a machine-gun, a knife and an automatic pistol drawn with such accuracy that it astonishes all those who look at it. He is aged

houses, a man hiding behind a tree with a gun, and bullets spewing from a tank. She is 10.

They are among 500 children who have passed through a Unicef nursery based at a disused cinema in the northern frootier town of Kukes, the place through which more than 300,000 refugees - at least half that when they return home to of them youngsters - bave Kosovo they will walk. passed after running the gauntlet of Serbian ethnic cleansing.

Their experiences have left

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are others who need more." Among them was the twowould say only the words 'mother, tractor' and "UCK". After two weeks of careful help from a trained counsellor, she is now improving, sometimes sbe eveo smiles.

And there was a three-yearold girl who would freeze and Gahinete drew burning cry belplessly whenever she beard the engine of a vehicle. Counselling established that Gezimjeta, whose name means Happiness of Life, had become traumatised by the noise of the Serbian tanks which had surrounded ber family's bome for days. She is improving, but still clings to ber father. He says

> There was one girl in her early teens who lost the use of

hyperactive, they can't mix with ethnic cleansing last year.

"All of these children have seen terrible things" said Elthe programme. "We encourage them to draw what they have seen and then talk about it. This helps and once a child has told a story often enough, it feels to them as if the story is about someooe else."

There are only three counsellors to help the refugees, but more Albanians are being trained to go out and work with the other traumatised children of ethnic cleansing. The counselling among the miserable hordes of Kukes is already working its magic, encouraging smiling faces in a place where more than 100,000 people are living in conditions more likely to make one cry.

Heavy rain has turned already muddy refugee camps into quagmires. Families spend hours each day trudging ankle deep in mud from wet tents to water standpipes, or standing cold and soaked in queues for bread and tinned fish or beans. The aid ageocies have worked hard to keep so many people alive and to prevent the spread of disease, but the conditions in which the displaced have been



Bujar Telaku, a 10-year-old refugee from Kosovo, grimacing as nurses give him a vaccine yesterday at a camp in Kukes

or aid ageocies. The Italian camp is known for its good food but bad sanitation, the Greek camp for its weatherproof tents, the United Nations

deepening mud but good bealthcare, and so on. Many refugees have been

taken in by generous Albanian families. Others have paid unpriced places in disused

ple living in squalor, sharing just four toilets - only one of which worked - eating cold food and washing clothing outdoors.

The policy now is to move the refugees south, to various parts cleared out in darkness from a

its occupants apparently being tory, we found bundreds of peo- Serbian artillery. The UNHCR says no one will be forcibly moved, but in the early hours of yesterday, an entire camp of rough tents and tractors covered in plastic sheeting was

given little choice by local police over whether or not to board waiting buses. It might not be a subtle way

of helping people, but anywhere
-outside the former Yugoslavia has to be better than bere. ..

living are appallingly degrading. High Commissioner for scrupulous landlords for overber legs for 10 days after wit-The refugees bave been Refugees (UNHCR)/Médecins most of the children troubled, nessing some horror, while a 13spread among about a dozen sans Frootieres camp for its factories. In one old carpet facbut a considerable number year-old boy is receiving belp for camps run by different nations Lowest Prices FUJI Digital Camera Stores up to 13 images MCOEL: DX-10 £249 KODAK Digital Camera A fartasic specification camera ar en amazing price. I 152 n 864 mai resolution. Blob compact flash NEW resolution. 9Mb compact flash memory, Stores up to 120 mages. **EXCLUSIVE** MODEL DC210+, Was 6594. 1349 **POWERED BY '50** HEWLETT **OLYMPUS** PACKARD Digital Camera 1250 r 960 mar resolution. INKIET TECHNOLOGY £549 APOLLO Colour Inkjet Printer (100) PC WORLD PRICE Up to 600 x 300 dpi resolution. Up to 3.5 pages per minute in black, up to 1.5 pages per minute in colour. Powered by Hewlett Packard Inkjet Technology. MODEL: P-1200. **SCANNERS** HEWLETT PACKARD EPSON Photo Quality Colour Inkjet Printer LEXMARK Photo Quality Colour Inkjet Printer MODEL: 3200c NEW £79.99 UMAX Flatbed Scar **HEWLETT PACKARD Flatbed Stranger** QUALITY PRINTING Over 1 maion customers already have access to THE UK'S No1 THE LATEST NEWS INTERNET

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Nato states supply oil to Serbia

FUEL SUPPLIES

THE YUGOSLAV state oil company is still taking direct defrom European Union countries including Britain.

destroying 25 per cent of Yugoslavia's fuel-storage capacity and the EU assured the world it was rushing through an embargo, agents at the Monteoegrin port of Bar said yesterday that Jugopetrol, the Serbian oil company, had been receiving buge deliveries of refined fuel oil and diesel, both vital for keeping Slobodan Milo-

sevic's military on the rails. Oil-refining and storage facilities have been key targets in Nato's bombing campaign but the interests of big business, particularly in Italy and Greece, both of which belong to Nato, mean Belgrade is still a valued customer. Italy and Greece have been most reluctant to agree to the EU embargo, which for "legal" reasons will only take effect from the middle of next week.

A Piraeus-based trader was quoted in the Financial Times as saying the embargo would prohably be ineffective. "Be sure, oil will still get to Yugoslavia whatever the EU decides. The profits will be immense. And the way the Greeks feel about what's happening to the Serbs they'll make sure they send it."

While Italy and Greece are the main suppliers, shipmeots have also been coming from

Texaco said that 10 days ago it delivered 65,000 barrels of petrol to Yugoslavia from a British refinery aboard a vessel chartered from a Greek company. More cargoes have been arriving in recent days, according to shipping agents.

A French ship, chartered by Jugopetrol in Slovenia, was reliveries of refined products ported to have arrived two days ago carrying 2,600 tons of diesel. Larger vessels carrying As Nato claimed success in fuel oil or diesel destined for the Serbian company have also been seen docking at Bar in recent days, although some of this fuel may have been destined for consumption in Montenegro.

The EU ban is intended to hit supplies of oil to Montenegro as well as Serbia but one potential loophole could still be exploited by oil companies.

It would exempt oil destined for helping displaced people within Yugoslavia in projects monitored by the Internatiooal Red Cross and UN refugee agency. Shipments already on their way to Yugoslavia would also fall clear of the embargo. Each member-state is expected to determine individually the sanctions to be imposed on anyooe breaking the ban. Madeleine Albright, US Sec-

retary of State, yesterday asked the frontline states in the Balkans to join the embargo. The foreign ministers of Albania. Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Macedonia, Romania and Slovenia were urged to "join Nato and the EU in doing all we can to stop petroleum products from reaching Belgrade's armed forces".

Experts say that without a UN Security Council resolu-tion there is little the allies can do to preveot Russia, China or Libya trading with Belgrade.

Hungary shipped 8,000 tons of Russian oil at the beginning of April, a paper claimed, Officials earlier said there had been no shipments since the bombing began but oo Wednesday a minister admitted "small amounts" may have gone any-

TIMETABLE: DAY 31

Friday 23 April

1am: Huge explosion at the RTS building in Belgrade. where Serbian TV has its main studio, takes all channels off the

7am: Serb TV resumes broadcasting from secret transmitters 2.20pm: Russia's Balkan envoy Viktor

Chernomyrdin says Milosevic has agreed to the deployment of foreign troops in Kosovo. 2.50pm: Reports that ethnic Albanian guerrillas fighting inside Kosovo have written to Nato asking for air drops or

ground forces to combat Serbian security forces they say are dispersing and digging in across the province.

3.20pm: Yugoslavia says it discussed a possible unarmed UN presence in Kosovo with Russian peace envoy - apparently contradicting the envoy's reported statement that Belgrade had agreed to admit troops.

3.55pm: Nato says the reported Yugoslav offer on foreign presence in Kosovo falls well short of what is required. 4pm: Tanjug reports two Nato missiles have

exploded near Pristina. Spm: Yugoslavia tells the UN that Nato bombing of its chemical, oil and pharmaceutical installations has caused an "ecological

catastrophe".

5.30pm: Albanian police load 3.000 refugees on to buses in Kukes and move them out of town. 5.30: A UNHCR team in Malina Mala on the Macedonia-Kosovo border urgently requests food and clothing for 100 refugees found in a mosque there who had walked 10 hours in the rain. Some of the children seemed unconscious, unable to talk or eat.

THE BALKAN QUESTION

KEY ISSUES BEHIND THE WAR EXPLAINED

Are the Serbs the crack fighters they are made out to be? The Serbs certainly think they are, although ironically they have made a cult of the Battle of Kosovo, which they lost to the Turks in 1389.

In spite of that celebrated and highly symbolic defeat, no other nation in the Balkans has such a clear image of themselves as warriors.

This self-confidence often transmits itself to visitors. such as Winston Churchill's Balkan emissary in the Second World War, Fitzroy Maclean, feated, while in the Second Slovene, half Croat.

who did much to disseminate the view that the Serbs singlehandedly beid down a host of German divisions.

In fact, the Serb martial record is patchy. They fought tremendously well in the 19th century against the Ottomans, wheo they liberated Serbia from the Sultan's rule, and in 1914 and 1915, when they trounced the Austrians attempting to storm Belgrade.

But other wars went badly. In the 1870s, Serbia took on Bulgaria and was soundly de-

World War the Serb-led Yugoslav army put up only cominal resistance to Germany.

Much of the confusion about the Serbs' fighting ability ceotres on the Partisan guerrilla fighters whose successes the Serbs have largely appropriated as their own.

What is often forgotten is that while Serbs certainly made up the biggest contingent of fighters, the Partisans were essentially a multi-ethnic army and their commander, Josip Broz Tito, was half

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A fax arrived from Burchill reminding me: 1) that she was deeply professionally indebted to my wife; 2) that she continued to praise my writing; and 3) abjuring me not to regard her as a "heartless bitch"?

CLASH OF THE TITANS: WILL JULIE BURCHILL SURVIVE THE WILL SELF INTERVIEW?

THE BEST-WRITTEN SUNDAY PAPER IN BRITAIN, FEATURING DARCUS HOWE, HOY HATTERSLEY, DAVID THOMSON, JEREMY CLARKE, PEREGRINE WORSTHORNE, JAMES DELINGPOLE, ALAN WATKINS, JOAN SMITH, DEAR ANNIE AND WALLACE ARNOLD

'Rochdale, the last place for US-style 'shooting'

AS THE silver BMW roared down the road, pursued by police, the front-seat passenger leant from his window repeatedly and shot at bystanders with

"I heard a helicopter overhead and went out to see what was happening," said Anthony Hodgson, who watched the gunmen tear past with a police convoy 200 yards behind, and people in the street diving for cover "A BMW went by at about 90mph, followed by the first police car. The BMW went round the corner and I couldn't see it any more then a lot more police vehicles arrived."

Moments later, the police rammed the hijacked vehicle off the road and the two occu- car drove into Horwich, near pants jumped from the car, firgg at the police who had surrounded them. Dumping the woman owner of the car they had taken as hostage, the two men tried, unsuccessfully, to escape on foot.

The drama that ended in the centre of Rochdale yesterday BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE. LINUS GREGORIADIS AND PAUL WAUGH

afternoon and resulted in the shooting of five bystanders, had begun an hour earlier at **Thornton Services at Garstang** on the M6 close to Lancaster. Police tried to question the

occupants of a red Rover. The car sped off - the Lancashire officers in high-speed pursuit. With the force's helicopter overhead, the chase headed

south towards Manchester, with the police radio-ing their colleagues in the Greater Manchester force for assistance. In an attempt to shake off their pursuers, the men in the

Bolton. They dumped the Rover and hijacked a BMW saloon being driven by a 27year-old woman. They are said to have fired

their weapons into the air before forcing the woman into the hack seat and setting off in the direction of Rochdale.



A police officer examines the wreck of a BMW car which crashed at the end of a police chase, following a series of apparent drive-by shootings in Rochdale

There were two marked police Range Rovers going at high speed, followed by other unmarked cars with flashing lights," said Wendy Albison, 60, a hairdresser in the village of Bamford. "A helicopter was huzzing around overhead.

"One of the cars pulled up at hus stop and then headed back in the direction from which it had come."

By this stage, as they approached Rochdale, the gun-

discriminately at bystanders. A 76-year-old man waiting at

a hus stop in Edenfield Road was shot in the leg as the car sped past. "I heard some echoing noises - at first I didn't think they

were gunshots," said a local bookmaker. "I went outside and I saw a man at the bus stop lying there and someone was helping him.

"He had been shot in the leg

men were apparently firing in- I helped him and kept a wet towel pressed on his leg until a doctor came out of a surgery."

The incident happened outside the home of the mother-inlaw of the pop singer Lisa Stansfield Jane Devaney said: "You hear about these things happening in America hut you don't expect it lo happen on

your own doorstep," she said. The gunmen sped on, leaving usayhem and agony in their wake. It is believed that as

they passed another bus stop one of them leant out and fired again - hitting more people. Among the injured was an el-

derly woman. With a convoy of police vehicles in pursuit, the gunmen headed towards the centre of Rochdale, speeding down Manchester Road. As they sped past a cyclist, one of the men again fired from the window hit.

ting him in the thigh. Outside Rochdale Town Hall, the gunmen came to a dead-end and were forced to turn around. They sped back along the way they had come, pursued by four police Range Rovers. It was at this point that

vehicle into a lamp-post. The two men leapt from the vehicle, firing their guns.

the police managed to ram the

Bill Shepherd, 57, a fork-lift truck driver at a nearby factopolice cars come down. It was just like a "Rambo" film.

"The next thing, there were a couple of gunshots and I saw the police had a man pinned to the road. I think the police had rammed the car.

"I heard three shots but I couldn't say where they came from. Then I saw another man pinned to the ground. The police asked me to pull my truck ry unit, said: "I was pulling out across the road to stop other of work when I saw at least 10 cars coming down."

Doctors cleared over baby overdose death

TWO DOCTORS accused of cov- By HELEN WILLIAM ering up a massive morphine overdose given to a premature baby were found not guilty of baby. serious professional misconduct yesterday by the General Medical Council.

Louise Wood was one day old when she received a morphine dose 100 times the intended amount at Rotherham District General Hospital on 1 October 1995. Within an hour of the two injections she was dead. Dr Vivian Michel, 45, a reg-

istrar administered the fatal dose. Dr Jean Shorland, a consultant paediatrician whose joh included monitoring drug dosages, instructed him to complete a "potentially misleading" death certificate, which made no mention of the overdose, the GMC professional conduct committee heard. The consultant should have known the morphine overdose was a possible cause of death, the committee found. Dr Shorland also should have immediately informed the

coroner about the death of the

The consultant admitted to making "a grave error of judgement" in not referring the case to the coroner. She said she believed Louise's death was caused by respiratory problems. Dr Shorland reported the matter to the coroner when she realised there was cause for concern, said her barrister, Robert Seabrook.

Announcing the decision, Sir Herbert Duthie, chair of the GMC professional conduct committee, told both doctors: "Taking all relevant matters into consideration, the committee has adjudged you to be not guilty of serious professional misconduct."

Outside the hearing, Dr Michel said: "This has been a very long and distressing time for everyone involved, especially Louise's family, and I realise that the matter has been fully investigated. I'm



Dr Vivian Michel: Gave Louise the fatal dose

very pleased with the decision that the GMC has reached today."

Allegations by nurses that they had warned Dr Michel the dose was excessive were found unproven.

The morphine was supposed to sedate the seven-week premature baby, who weighed 1.5kg and was suffering breathing problems, so that a chest

drain tube could be inserted. The dose was drawn up by Hilary Evans, a junior doctor, who made an error in calculation and placed a decimal point in the wrong place. The dosage should have been checked before being administered but it

was not, the GMC was told. Dr Evans, 29, of Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, was found not guilty of serious professional misconduct on Tuesday.

Louise's grandmother, Dorothy Wood, of Rotherham. said yesterday the family was "disgusted and distressed" by the decision. "It was upsetting when it happened. It brought it all up again now, and we feel t was for nothing."

An inquest in February 1997 recorded an open verdict on Louise's death but criticised Dr Evans for her mathemati-

cal skills. Mrs Wood said: "We feel that it was right that Hilary Evans was let off. She was made a scapegoat."

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Montgomery in talks to buy control of Express papers

THE DEPOSED Mirror Group chief executive, David Montgomery, is understood to he seeking to buy the Express newspapers.

Mr Montgomery has met Lord Hollick, proprietor of T. se Express and Sunday Express, as well as the Daily Stor, and told him he is interested in huying the two flagship papers. .

Both papers are edited by Rosie Boycott, whom Mr Montgomery brought from magazine editing to edit The Independent on Sunday and, briefly, The Independent.

Mr Montgomery is believed Express that Mr Montgomery

Media and Culture Editor

to have held talks with two

City venture capital companies, one of which is Apax, to raise money for the venture. He told friends he is keen to run a newspaper group again.

If Lord Hollick does decide to sell to Mr Montgomery he will probably sell the ailing Daily Star elsewhere, possibly to the Barclay brothers, whose representative, Brian Hitchen, has been seen in the building.

But it is the seven-day

has his eyes on. The sale would Independent editor Andrew involve a kiss-and-make-up act between Lord Hollick and Mr Montgomery as the two did not get on when Lord Hollick was a non-executive director at the Mirror group under Mr

Montgomery.

Journalists at The Express. a number of whom worked under Mr Montgomery, are said to he alarmed at the prospect of renewing acquain-

tance with him. One man who has stated in

print that he is not the biggest

fan of Mr Montgomery is the

He is said to have run into

Mr Montgomery at a restaurant where the latter said how nice it would be to work together again. Whether the feeling is mutual remains to be seen. Lord Hollick, a New Labour

burying the hatchet with Mr Montgomery.

supporter who has financial

interests in television including

Channel 5, already seems to be

He has been telling senior journalists at The Express that Mr Montgomery was "a good Express columnist and former chief executive" at the Mirror.

Microsof	ft AutoRoute Express Great Britain 20	00 @Ordnance Survey			
00:00	DEPART Camden Town on the	A400	2 miles	N	
00:05 00:10	Turn left onto Turn right onto	A1 A1000	2 miles 1/2 mile	N	Barnet
00:10	At Muswell Hill	A1000	2 miles	N	Barnet
00:15 00:24	At Finchley stay on the At Barnet bear right onto	A1000 A1081	4 miles 3 miles	N N	Barnet
00:30	Bear right onto	A1	1/4 mile	N	M25 J23 A1(N
00:30 00:56	At M25 J23 A1(M) J1 stay on the At A1(M) stay on the	A1(M) A1	24 miles 5 miles	N	A1(M) J4
01:00	Go onto	A6001	2 miles	N	Biggleswade
01:02	At Biggleswade stay on the	A6001 A1	1/2 mile 113 miles	W	
01:03 02:55	Turn right onto Stay on the	A1 A1(M)	15 miles	N	M18 J2
03:08	At A1(M) J1 stay on the	A1	71 miles 2 miles	N	Scotch Come A1(M)
04:19 04:20	At Scotch Corner stay on the At A1(M) turn off onto	A1 B8275	11 miles	N	A I (W)
04:43	Turn left onto	A68	2 miles 11 miles	NW	Tow Law Tow Law
04:45 04:57	At W Auckland stay on the At Tow Law stay on the	A68	8 miles	N	Castleside
05:05 05:19	At Castleside stay on the	A68 A69	12 miles	N NW	Haydon Bridg
05:21	Turn off onto	A88	15 miles	N	Jedburgh
05:37 05:40	At Ridsdale stay on the At W Woodburn stay on the	A68 A88	2 miles 9 miles	N	Jedburgh Jedburgh
05:49	At Rochester stay on the	A68	22 miles 9 miles	NW	Jedburgh Dalkeith
06:13 06:23	At Jedburgh stay on the At St Boswells stay on the	A68 A68	24 miles	NW	Delkeith
06:49 06:53	At Fela stay on the At Pathhead stay on the	A68	4 miles 5 miles	NW NW	Dalkeith Dalkeith
06:59	At Dalkeith stay on the	A68	6 miles	w	
07:12 07:15	Go onto At Morningside turn right onto	A700 A702	1 mile 1/4 mile	W	Mornigslde Edinburgh
07:15	At Edinburgh turn left onto	A90	2 miles 2 miles	NW W	Blackhall Cramond Brid
07:21 07:26	At Blackhall stay on the At Cramond Bridge stay on the	A90 A90	6 miles	NW	Oramona Bira
07:33 07:35	Stay on the Stay on the	Forth Road Bridge A90	1 mile 2 miles	N	M90 J1
07:38	At M90 J1 stay on the	M90	27 miles	N	M90 J2 M823
08:01 08:07	At M85 M90 J10 turn off onto	A912 A9	3 miles 1/4 mile	N	*Check ecces Perth
80:80	At Perth stey on the	A9	13 miles	W NW	Inver
08:25 08:25	At Birnam stay on the Turn right onto	A9 A923	1/2 mile 1/2 mile	N	Blairgowne
08:26	At Dunkeld stay on the Turn left onto	A923 No name	1/2 mile 3 miles	N W	Blairgowne
08:27 08:34	Go onto	A9	1 mile	N	Dowally
08:35 08:39	At Dowally stay on the At Bellinluig stay on the	A9 A9	3 miles 4 miles	N	Ballinluig Dalnaspidal
08:43	Go onto	A924	1 mile	NW	Pitlochry
08:44 08:45	At Pitlochry stay on the Turn right onto	A924 A9	1 mile 23 miles	NW	Dalnaspidal
09:09	At Dainespidal stay on the	A9 A9	59 miles 5 miles	NW N	Daviot N Kessock
10:12 10:18	At Daviot stay on the Turn off onto	B865	1 mile	w	14 (163300)
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10:22	DEPART Inverness on the	B881	1/2 mile	E	
10:24 10:27.	Bear right onto Turn right onto	B865	1 mile 5 miles	E S	Daviot
10:32	At Daviot stay on the	A9	59 miles	S	Dalnaspidal
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13:32 13:48	Go onto At Dalkeith stay on the	A68 A68	8 miles 5 miles	E	Jedburgh Jedburgh
13:51	At Pathhead stay on the	A68 A68	4 miles	SE	Jedburgh
13:55 14:22	At Fele stay on the At St Boswells stay on the	A88	24 miles 9 miles	S	Jedburgh
14:32 14:55	At Jedburgh stay on the At Rochester stay on the	A68 A68	22 miles 9 miles	SE	Rochester W Woodburn
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15:26	Go onto	A68	12 miles 8 miles	SE	Darlington Darlington
15:39 15:47	At Castleside stay on the At Tow Law on the	A68	11 miles	E	Darlington
15:59 16:01	At W Auckland stay on the Turn right onto	A68 B6275	2 miles	SE	Darlington A1 (M)
16:24	At A1(M) bear right onto	A1	2 miles	S	Scotch Corne
16:28 16:36	At Scotch Corner stay on the At A1(M) J1 stay on the	A1 A1(M)	71 miles 15 miles	S	M62 J33 M18 J2
17:49	Stay on the	A1	113 miles	s	A1 (M)
19:42 19:42	Turn off onto At Biggleswade stay on the	A6001 A6001	1/2 mile 2 miles	E	Biggleswade
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THE INDEPENDENT Saturday 24 April 1999

Boys to study ripping yarns

BOYS SHOULD read edventure stories such as Treasure Island and Kidnapped rather than romantic literature by Jane Austen and the Bronte sisters, the Government said yesterday.

David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education. urged teachers to give boys ripping yarns to read to stop them being turned off English at school. Mr Blunkett wants to encourage the study of actionpacked detective stories, science fiction, thrillers and adventures such as the Sherlock Holmes series. Frankenstein or The War of the Worlds in new guidelines for the national curriculum, due to come into force next year,

Ministers believe that schools may reinforce the belief that reading is "uncool" by offering inappropriate books to teenage boys. A senior gov-ernment source said: "The more adventurous stories may appeal particularly to boys. You might find their interests waning from other books. In the national curriculum there is Robert Louis Stevenson and Jane Austen but Robert Louis Stevenson is more likely to appeal to boys and schools should be aware of that."

Fewer than two-thirds of 11year old boys achieved the expected standard in reading last year compared with nearly four-fifths of girls. Tests for 14year olds show that while nearly three-quarters of girls reached expected standards in English less than three-fifths of boys hit the target.

Research carried out by the Government's curriculum advisers, the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, has suggested that giving boys nonfiction and thrillers can increase English standards.

BY BEN RUSSELL **Education Correspondent**

Under the national curriculum, secondary school children must study two works offiction by major writers from before 1900 and two by 20th-century authors. The recommended writers include Jane Austen, Emily and Charlotte Brontë as well as Charles Dickens, George Eliot, Henry James and H G Wells. The 20th-century recommendations include William Golding, Graham Greene and D H Lawrence.

Estelle Morris, an Education minister, said: "We have got to take very seriously the fact that boys do not read.

"I do not believe that there are boys' books and girls' books. But all the evidence is that boys do not read enough. which is a massive problem which we must eddress in terms of the underachievement of boys and there are some books which have content which boys prefer to read."

The Government's stance was backed by head teachers yesterday, who claimed that boys were being "turned off" school at a younger and younger age.

John Dunford, the general secretary of the Secondary Heads Association, which is holding its annual conference in Brighton, said boys as young as 12 were becoming disaffected with school.

Mr Dunford, the former head teacher of a big comprehensive school in Durham, said: "When I started teaching it was 16-year-olds you had to worry about, now it is 12 and 13vear-olds.

"I have seen the age dropping throughout my teaching career. We are seeing it at the



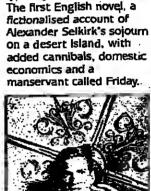
Frankenstein (1818) by Mary Shelley The prototypical horror story of a man-made monster who turns on its creator, it is also a moving variant on the Noble Savage theme of innocence betrayed.



(1719) BY DANIEL DEFOE (1898) BY H G WELLS Generally held to be the first true British science fiction novel, it is the story of how spidery Martians land in Woking and trash the Surrey countryside as



KIDNAPPED (1886) BY R L STEVENSON Highland and high seas romance following David Balfour, swindled out of his inheritance, and Alan Breck, Jacobite adventurer, as they trek across Scotland.



THE TIME MACHINE (1895) BY H G WELLS SF adventure that turns into socio-political allegory when the Traveller's excursion into the 800th millennium finds most humans mutated into a nasty throng of Moriocks.

age of 12, which is alarming, whether it is because of increasing meturity or the increasing influence people have through the Internet and television."

Judith Mullen, the associagap between attainment of boys
tion's president and the head and girls in many of our schools teacher of Melbourn Village is still far too wide for comfort."

College in Cambridgeshire said: "How often do we see the bright-eyed bushy-tailed student, often male, switch off or no longer finding school challenging and stimulating? The

Three right-wing groups claim link to Brixton bomb

MI5 AND the Metropolitan Police Racial and Violent Crimes Taskforce are investigating the Brixton nail bombing as Scotland Yard becomes increasingly convinced that the bomber was racially motivated.

Detectives investigating the explosion, which hit a busy shopping market in south London last Saturday injuring 39 people, are pursuing the theory that the bomber is a renegade member of e far-right organisation with a racist grudge.

At a briefing yesterday, Detective Chief Superintendent John Bunn, of Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch, said the racial motive was a "very, very serious line of inquiry".

BY IAN BURRELL

the possibility that it was white this brutal crime."

Combat 18. The claims included one

IN BRIEF

'Lethal' heroin link to five deaths DRUG USERS were warned yesterday about a "potentially

lethal" form of beroin thet may have caused the deaths of five people in the past week. Detectives fear that the link between five deaths in Norfolk could be a "particularly

Octuplet mother's house fraud

and a building society. The case was adjourned.

Lawrence parents honoured

DOREEN AND NEVILLE Lawrence, parents of the

Traffic relief for Stonehenge

to reduce traffic near the world heritage site.

THE INDEPENDENT continues to win awards for

journalistic excellence. David McKittrick, Ireland

murdered black teenager Stephen Lawrence, were

named media personalities of the year at the Race In

The Media Awards at the Savoy in London yesterday.

A £125M cut-and-cover tunnel and a new visitors' centre

will be built outside Stonehenge in Wiltshire in a scheme

Independent's writers win awards

Correspondent, was named Feature Writer of the Year in

the Northern Ireland press and broadcast awards last night. Hilary Clarke of The Independent on Sunday won

the national newspaper award in the Commission for

article on race relations in the East End of London.

Racial Equality annual Race in the Medie awards for an

MANDY ALLWOOD, who was pregnant with octuplets but

lost all the babies, has pleaded guilty to mortgage fraud.

At Birmingham Crown Court yesterday, Allwood, 33, was bailed after admitting giving false information to a bank

He said: "We are looking at

Home Affairs Correspondent

racist thugs who committed It was revealed that three

more extreme right-wing "groups" have claimed responsibility for the attack, following an earlier claim purporting to come from neo-Nazi thugs

from someone using the name White Wolf, who has a long history of writing hate mail to black groups and recently sent a vitriolic circular to black MPs. Another claim was made by a group called the English National Party.

pure" form of beroin known as China White

None of the claimants has given any specific information which would corroborate their involvement.

Mr Bunn confirmed yesterday that MI5 and Commander John Grieve, the head of the Racial and Violent Crimes Taskforce and the man investigating the racist murder of Stephen Lawrence, were participating in the bomb investigation.

Police are still looking at the claim said to have been made by Combat 18. Mr Bunn said: "That line of inquiry is being investigated very thoroughly and

looked et in meticulous detail." Combat 18 has been under such heavy police surveillance in recent months that experts believe it would have been

difficult for it to carry out the attack. Detectives have not ruled out

the possible significance of a broken-down 159 bus which had stalled close to where the bomb went off. Mr Bunn said it was conceivable that Brixton was not the bomber's target. "There is the possibility the bomber got off that bus and was on his way somewhere else," he said.

A £30,000 reward has been ... offered for anyone with information leading to the arrest and

conviction of suspects. Police will today atage a reconstruction at the scene of the bomb. Officers will seek to trace new witnesses - particularly those who only use the

Mother ordered to send son back

AN ENGLISHWOMAN who fled By STEPHEN HOWARD with her children from Cyprus after alleged abuse by her gambling husband was ordered to send her son back.

She found a home in Britain and her son, aged six, and 14year-old daughter (who has a different father) were settled in full-time education after a High Court judge allowed her to stay.

But three Appeal Court judges yesterday ruled that she must comply with the Hague Convention, the treaty covering "love-tug" children, Although hoth parents have British citizenship, the boy was born and raised in Cyprus and under the convention his fate must be decided there. Now the woman, who met and married her husband in Britain, faces over custody in Cyprus.

In January a High Court fused to return the son after the

mother pleaded that he would be et grave psychological risk. Under Article 13B of the convention, cases where there is a danger of physical or psycho-. logical damage become exceptions to the rule that children unlawfully taken must be returned to their country of origin. But Lady Justice Butler-Sloss said the mother was "the author of her own misfortunes. The parent is creating the psychological situation and not the child. Article 13B would be relied on by every mother. and it would drive a coach and four through the convention It. is not in the interests of international relations,"

The ruling is to be sent to a months of uncertainty battling court in Cyprus, which will hear the case over the son's final residence. Identification of judge, Mrs Justice Hogg, rethe family is barred to protect









The sorry state of English nationalism

THE BBC did oo service to English nationalism this week when it broadcast half an hour of propaganda for the cause. Perhaps this was inteotional; liberal England (which must still include the BBC) has a nervous, half-ashamed attitude to Englishness, as though football, skinheads and bearskins are (and can be) its only viable expressions.

The programme was one in a series called Counterblasts and titled "The Race That Dare Not Speak Its Name", though I didn't know this at the time because I came across lt when it was halfway through.

It was immediately compelling. A Leicester woman who collected little porcelain pigs had been visited by the police because the pigs, some of which were displayed on her window sill, had offended her Muslim neighbours. This, on the face of it, seemed absurd. The presenter and argufier, an unfamiliar silver-haired man called Alan Ford, engaging and "real" hecause he was clearly unpractised in television, moved on to other absurdities and unfairnesses. The Scottish and Welsh tourist boards were awash with cash. while the English tourist board had had its grant cut. Schools shied away from the teaching of traditional English history. It was all a bad husiness, the presenter said, and then proposed his liberating solutions.

England should follow Scotland and Wales and have its own parliament. English institutions - and not just football crowds - should be proud to fly the flag of St George. England should have "Jerusalem" as its official national anthem.

I sat nodding sympathetically, until Mr Ford began to outline the first measures an English parliament would take: the banning of "any further immigration from nonwhite countries" and "resettlement" offers to non-whites already here. Only then did I realise where Mr Ford was coming from: the white farright and its poisonous conflation of race and national

Does English nationalism bave to be this way? I don't think so - in fact, I thought it was dull-witted and irresponsible of the BBC to promote Think of Shakespeare and days on the beach, over dinner,

Description of the property of the second section of the second

NOTEBOOK

IAN JACK

that implication - though I'm no particular enthusiast for

As a Scottish/British individual who has lived in England for going on 30 years, I've come to appreciate what might be called the decadence of English/British nationalism, the porous uncertainties about its culture, the arguments over its past and future, which have allowed people from other places to be absorbed in the stream of national life (for contrasting examples, see countries that have prolonged more certain cultures, such as France and Germany). But the "shame" of being

English has always puzzled me. English people - perhaps I mean by this liberal and usually middle-class people - will go to the extremities of personal and genetic history to demonstrate their unEnglish credentials; grannies from Argyll or Love, six years in a dorm at Fettes, accidental birth in Carmarthen - any or all of them wheeled forward to support the statement, beautifully enunciated in r-p: "Of course, I'm not really English."

For such people, English culture and history seems to comprise bad food, child chimney sweeps, the Amritsar massacre, the Titanic's navigating officers, Bloody Sunday, the Heysel riot and the Stepben Lawrence case. Good to remember these; a point in liberal England's favour.

But when I bear grown men and women confessing that they would rather be known by some piddling local provenance with its eroding encrustation of difference — to be thought of primarily, for example, as Geordies or Mancunians - what I want to shout is: "Cheer up and think hig.

Dickens, Darwin and Newton. Think of well-behaved traffic. Compare London as a multicultural city to Paris or Berlin. Think of gardens, or Orwell, or the fine traditions of English comedy, satire and dissent. Listen to Kathleen Ferrier or Lennon and McCartney, And if none of this works for you, think of English, the world's triumphant language in most things from the best-selling novel to the Internet."

Yesterday was St George's Day. As a day of popular celebration of England's patron saint it died with the Reformation. There is now a movement for its revival. I hope it doesn't happen; distant - in this case, mythical - history has a way of gathering the volk (see the 14-century battles of Bannockburn and Kosovo) and it would be right up Alan Ford's racially exclusive street.

But if it must be celebrated, then the best spirit might be some combination of the lists above, the achievements punctuated by the transgressions and failures (Kipling's eojoinder to humility: "Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet/Lest we forget - lest we forget").

THE EDITOR of The Independent has been regaling London society with a story that he thinks illustrates Englishness. It goes like this. Unknowingly, coincidentally, two men who write for the same newspaper take their wives and children for an Easter break on the Isle

Unknowingly again, they stay at the same small hotel. At six o'clock they take their children for an early tea in the The bar has no other cus-

tomers, but the men enter at different times and sit with their backs to one another. The first man spots the second man, the second man spots the first, hut each helieves he has not been counter-spotted. They help their children finish off the turkey dinosaurs and then, eyes purposefully focused on the hotel's marine prints, slide gratefully from the bar to the safety of their bedrooms.

Somehow - only God knows how - they never bump into each other over the next two



St George meeting some resistance in Piccadilly Circus yesterday, the patron saint's day

in the lobby, on the street. They return to London. The Borgesian riddle is: how do they both come to know that each has seen the other? Not so Borgesian, as it turns

out, because one of the men was me and as a precautionary measure I mentioned (I hoped, casually) to the editor that I thought (that is. I was far from certain) that I'd seen X (that is, perhaps distantly, in a seamist) on the Isle of Wight, just in case X had seen me and

thought my behaviour odd. desultory conversation about The Independent. Vagueness, however, proved The editor was astonished impossible to preserve. The editor's questions were too specific. Where had I stayed, on

"desultory" and "Independent" not being words linked in his mind - and turned his which days? "So why on earth didn't you speak to him?" the cross-examination to X, who at editor asked. Because, I said, first denied all knowledge of my I hardly knew him the works presence in the Seaview Hotel. Seaview, near Ryde, and then full-time in the paper's Canary confessed that yes, he'd sat Wharf offices, a place I haven't visited in four years). More imfour foot away from me in the bar and averted his eyes for the portantly, I was with my family in bucket-and-spade mode same reason. and didn't want to have a All this week, the editor has

Neville Elder

been telling audiences that this story is the most perfect illustration of English behaviour he has ever heard, as though X and I were Charters and Caldicott in The Lady Vanishes, or two Victorian explorers passing each other in Arabia Deserts with nothing more than a gruff "good day". The problem is that neither X nor I is English (X heing Welsh-Italian, two Identities not known for reserve). Personally, on the principle of

women and children first, I be-lieve we behaved rather well.

THIS WEEK a regular little feature began to appear in The Independent's foreign pages under the title "The Balkan Question: Key issues hehind the war explained". It's couched in the most humble of forms - question and answer - hut I was glad to see it. The paper has had many excellent dispatches from the Balkans, perhaps especially those of Robert Fisk and James Dalrymple, but daily re-

porting has its limitations. By its nature it's good at the present but bad at the past, and t often assumes (because it has to - the pressures of time and space) that readers know more than they actually do. My own knowledge of the Balkans is distressingly thin, a rag-bag of odds and ends. Example, the British knew Serbia as Servia until 1916 when the "v" was replaced by the "h" to remove any implication of servility, which would not be fitting for one of our gallant allies in the First World War.

So I'm grateful to Marcus Tanner in this new series for supplying answers to the most basic questions. Example, that the hybrid Serb-Croat language died with Tito's Yugoslavia, to be succeeded by Serbian, Croatian and Bosnian, which are virtually indistinguishable; and that Slovenes and Macedonians have separate languages, hut still Slavic.

Why does it help to know stuff such as this? In the Seventies, as a reporter in India. I used to look at the copy I'd sent back to London and think what a poor match it was to reality. An election in Uttar Pradesh could read like the same thing in Hertfordshire. The words were the same -"village", "majority", "polling station" - but what they described was totally different.

You had a narrative but its spare, simple lines badly needed the cross-hatching ink that could describe the society in which it was set (and which you, as a reporter, were just beginning to discover). The divisions of India are complicated and those in the Balkans probably more so. We need all the help we can get.

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Basildon Bexley Brentwood Bristol Cardiff City Chester

Colchester Croydon Dover Edinburgh Fareham Famboroug Glasgow Airport

Havant

Basingstoke Birmingham City

High Wycombe Leeds/Bradford Maidstone/Sevenoaks Manchester Norwich Nottingham City Nottingham/Derby Portsmouti

Southampton/Eastleigh

Preston

Rochester

Stoke-on-Trent

Lancaste Leeds/Selby Leicester Aylesbury Cambridge

Grimsby

Hull

Havdock

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Hemel Hempstead Hull Marina Leeds/Brighouse

Newcastle-upon-Tyne Reading Southam

Stevenage

Wakefield

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South Mimme York £59 Dublin (IR) £79

Kensington

Regent's Park

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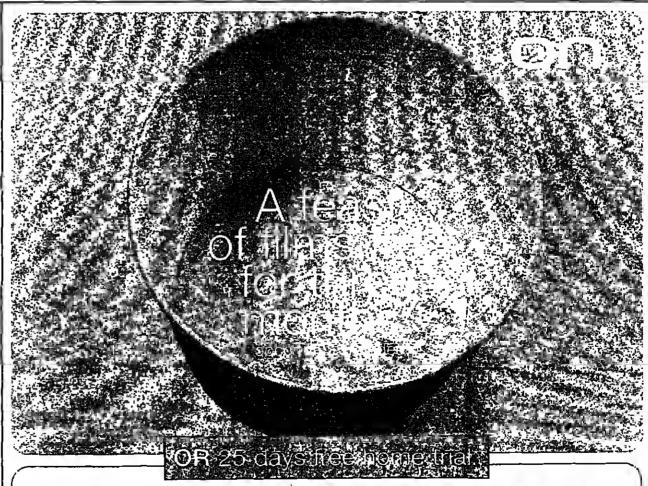
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ONE SMALL ray of sunshine pierced the gloomy political skies over the Scottish National Party's headquarters: the long-awaited arrival of Sean Connery. With the SNP lag- ists at the fancy Witchery ging 20 points behind Labour in polls, campaign managers were pinning hopes for a revival on their most famous backer.

But before turning his mind to a big set-piece appearance at a rally on Monday and a party political broadcast, the former Bond star had other husiness. His latest film, Entrapment, is

Westminster Correspondent

out in the US and he entertained American film journalrestaurant in Edinburgh last night. His schedule was further complicated by a crew from the American 60 Minutes programme who are making a accompanied him around the streets where he was once a milkman and slotted in the political angle by interviewing

the SNP leader, Alex Salmond. who must have been happy to inject a little glamour into an otherwise desperate campaign.

Connery is staying with his wife, Micheline, in the five-star Caledonian Hotel, where the American film corps is also billeted. Leaving the hotel vesterday, he was asked when he was joining the SNP campaign. documentary about him. They He replied "I never left." Asked what he thought of Donald Dewar, Secretary of State for Scotland, Connery said: "What team does he play for?"

ed the SNP's best hope of persuading Scots to vote, as its last broadcast entreated, with their hearts. Previous interventions by him had remarkable effects; a 1991 hroadcast was followed who can only spend a certain buy into the parochial underby a seven-point rise in ratings. His support has a down side,

it has caused controversy. vote in London the actor, who be looking for a home in Scot- nery's presence will remind could generate valuable jobs.

for the Bahamas". A Labour spokesman, asked about the Connery effect, said: It is going content with what they have. to be difficult for someone who is not resident in the UK and number of days here without achieving, happy-with-whatbeing liable for tax to tell hard- we've-got Labour vision of working Scots to pay more."

though: he is the SNP's biggest Labour refuses to display donor, giving £40,000 a year, and complacency but only a mira-Even after registering to cle can put the SNP ahead in continue to court Connery afpolls. But that will not stop the lives abroad but who is said to nationalists hoping for on. Con-

Connery's presence provid- land, was dubbed "The member Scots they can compete with the best in the world, they say, "He is the living embodiment of the fact that we don't have to Scotland," a party worker said.

Whatever Labour may say in the heat of an election, it will terwards. His promise to establish a film studio in Scotland

He has met Gordon Brown and Tony Blair. And, whether or not he can influence the result, Scottish politicians expect to

see more of Connery. "I can't just play golf, do nothing else and then play gin rummy in the afternoon. I need more than that. I'm caught by what's happening in Scotland.

I'm caught by the timing of it all ... I'm now in my 69th year and have an opportunity to do something really worthwhile and interesting there," he said in a recent interview.

Socialist is Blair's worst nightmare in Scotland

"HOWZIT GOIN', pal?" Tommy
Sheridan, eternally solicitous for the welfare of the workers, inquires of the Glasgow council employee on the phone, before confirming, with man-of-thepeople modesty, that "It's

Almost a decade has passed dan, now 35, hecame Scotland's foremost (living) working-class hero, while spearheading the the Thatcher policy which. more than any other, sealed Scotland's political estrangement from London.

he languished in Saughton that position." Prison. Edinburgh, for refusing to pay the tax. The vote was a true, New Labour can expect no show of solidarity from the working-class estates of the with the militants it expelled on Pollok district of Glasgow where the long and bloody road back Mr Sheridan grew up, and to to electability. which he returned after uni-

graduated from the Tories' bogeyman to menace New

paid-up members) could, according to some polls, hold the balance of power in the new Parliament, elected by proportional representation. The SSP Tommy ... aye, Councillor could sneak into Holyrood with as many as eight seats

Sitting in his office, beneath since the handsome Mr Sheri- a poster in which Margaret Thatcher metamorphoses, in two neat, easy steps, into Tony Blair. Mr Sheridan, though caucampaign against the poll tax, tious about poll predictions, clearly revels in the possibilities PR offers to little parties. "The SSP holding the balance of power is Donald Dewar's night-Mr Sheridan was voted on to mare scenario," he smiles. "But Glasgow City Council in 1992 as we could just find ourselves in

If the "nightmare" comes

South of the horder, Mr versity to incite poll tax protests. Sheridan would be dismissed as On the eve of the elections to a left-wing loony. And even in Pollok as a dangerous "heid-Labour. For Mr Sheridan's tiny banger" who, behind an egali-Scottish Socialist Party (1,200 tarian front and matey humour, vancement to champion his



Tommy Sheridan at a Scottish Socialist Party fringe meeting at the Scottish Trades Union Congress in Glasgow

is manipulating the masses. Many Scots, however, admire the man even when they dislike his politics. For while he Scotland's Parliament, he has more socialist Scotland, a few has been eulogised by some denounce the Pied Piper of journalists as the "most gifted politician of his generation", he has rejected career ad-

uating from Stirling University he lives in a Pollok council flat. chasing up housing complaints. agitating for the revolution. and surviving on a £6,500 annual councillor's allowance.

His living-room is a shrine to socialism. Lenin gazes down

class. Some 14 years after grad- from above the gas fire. On the Tupperware box. Pictures of his houston Sports Centre," he opposite wall is a picture of John Maclean, one of the Red Clydesiders, whose dream of a Scottish people's republic caused David Lloyd George to send tanks to Glasgow.

Maclean was the father of Scotland's romantic independent socialist tradition. Mr Sheridan carries the flame. barred from coupling nationalism with socialism, the SSP is hoping to receive Labour supporters' second votes.

Mr Sheridan has developed militantism with a cuddly. human face. He flaunts his adoration for his trade unionist mum, Alice, and offers visitors

girlfriend, Gail, an air stew- smiles. Council-run and "£1.65 ardess, are pinned to his office a sumbed session". wall alongside Lenin. Two years ago his home an-

concealing the dangerous reality of his political beliefs also have to battle against boy-next-

door good looks. And in Mr Sheridan they come with touching human vanity. "Where do you get the tan?" asks a journalist at a poorly attended SSP press conference of Mr Sheridan's Derek Hatton-

style permacolour "At Bella-

And while po-faced militants stick rigidly to Marxist tract, Mr swering machine informed Sheridan is happy to chat about callers that he was probably out the personal. With middle age fighting the Tories. Now it re- looming, has he never regretports: "I ara probably out fight- ted not ditching idealism, doning Blair and his new Tories." ning the suit and mouthing the Those who warn that he is New Labour script? "Nah." he says. "I could never have lived with myself." But principles, he confesses, are harder to keep. Gail is 35 and they are both broody. £6,500 a year is hardly going to raise a child, though a Scottish MP's salary would Even £20,000 - the salary the SSP has promised its members

would only accept if elected -

Salmond takes to streets for votes

BY JACK O'SULLIVAN AND ANDREW GRICE

THE SCOTTISH National Party abandoned its daily press briefings yesterday, signalling a deepening crisis caused by the party's poor showing in opinion

Trailing Labour by 20 points in the most recent poll, the SNP took its campaign to the streets in a series of walkabouts. Defending the change in tactics, Alex Salmond, the party's leader, said: "We have to face the fact that the vast majority of the press in Scot-land are in the Labour Party's pocket.

"Instead of dancing to a tune they want to establish, what we have decided to do is take our campaign into the streets and homes of the people of Scotland. On that campaign we think we can win." Despite the SNP's decline,

Labour leaders are to issue a strong "no complacency" warning to party workers and supporters in Scotland. "Alex Salmond may be wounded and injured but he is not dead." a Labour spokesman said last night. "He is still dangerous." Now we have got to kill him off." Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, whn is playing a big role in Labour's campaign, is said to be worried that the party will

become complacent. . Mr Salmond went on a walkabout in the Glasgow constituency of Govan, where the within 3,000 votes of beating Labour in the 1997 election. It had been thought that the SNP had a good chance of winning but serious doubts were raised yesterday about whether the SNP can even win there or in two of its other chief target seats - Ochil and Inverness East, Nairn and Lochaber.

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Halford, police dissident, ready for a political fight

ALISON HALFORD has been in BY BARRIE CLEMENT a few scraps in her time. She accused Merseyside Police of sexism after heing repeatedly refused promotion and, in her new role in the North Wales Police Authority, she has crossed swords with the chief constable, who she alleges is involved in cover-ups.

And now, most surprisingly of all, perhaps, given her Conservative upbringing in East Anglia, she has surfaced as a Labour candidate in the elec-

tion for the Welsh Assembly. She is standing in Delyn, North-east Wales and according to the Institute of Welsh Politics at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, she has a good chance of winning the seat "I'm not sure whether I voted or how I voted during my early years in the police. I imagine if I did vote it would have been Conservative. My parents voted Conservative," Ms Halford said.

She joined the police in 1962 and in her 21 years in London went from constable to chief superintendent, hefore becoming an assistant chief constable on Merseyside. Her conversion to Labour began in London. "I've always had a social conscience. I was very unhappy about people being forced to live in cardboard boxes.

Her two-year fight to prove she had been the victim of discrimination on Merseyside she was rejected for promotion nine times - ended with an nutof-court settlement with both sides claiming victory.

Ms Halford moved to north Wales in 1994, when she joined the Labour Party and was soon asked to become a councillor. Inevitably, she was also seconded to the Police Authority. Equally inevitably, perhaps, she has been involved in running



Halford: Labour convert battles with Michael Argent, the

chief constable. Some of her political rivals she is running against three women - claim she is obsessed with police misdemeanours. She accuses senior police of undermining complaints procedures to protect officers from investigation. If it is an obsession, it is shared by other members of the Police Authority

have set up the "Campaign for Justice", seeking a Home Office inquiry into police activities innorth Wales.

Ms Halford is anxious to show she is not a one-issue politician. She believes the Welsh Assembly will be far closer to the people it represents. She likes its "transparency and inclusiveness" and the balance between the genders. "I want the Assembly to behave ethically, not to squan-

der money." However, the phrase "equal opportunities" is never far from her lips. Would she advise a young woman to become a police officer? "There are dinosaurs and chauvinists in every walk of life. But I generally think that most senior police officers are trying harder. The police service is a wonderfully fulfilling career or, shnuld I say, way of life.".

WILLIAM HAGUE made his second visit to Scotland in a week in an attempt to shore up his party's fortunes. Latest polls indicate that the party, which has no Scottish MPs at Westminster will secure only 11 per cent of first-preference votes on 6 May. Mr Hague said: "Labour have a raft of new taxes all ready in the wings

LABOUR AND the Liberal Democrats spent the day attacking each other, despite

that they would inflict on

Scots if unchecked."



CAMPAIGNS BRIEFING 12 DAYS TO GO

the expectation that the two parties will end up in coalition after the election. Lord Steel of Aikwood, the

former Liberal leader, urged

electors to give their second vote to his party. "The last thing Scotland needs is a Labour-dominated parliament," he said. The Scottish Secretary, Donald Dewar, said: "It is nice of

David Steel to acknowledge how strongly we are running. It certainly does not suggest the Lib Dems have much to offer if they are simply looking for votes nn the rebound."

MIKE GERMAN, leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats, was accused of overplaying

his assertion that the people of Wales lived in fear of crime. One cynic said: "The only reason people fear crime is because every time they open their door, there's a Lib Dem there."

YESTERDAY'S Daily Record carried a front-page picture of a snarling Sean Connery chasing a photographer, with the headline: "You've seen the polis then, Sean." Who knows what might happen if SNP-supporting Connery got his hands on mild-mannered Donald Dewar?

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Adoption law to be tighter

TOUGHER RULES protecting children brought to Britain from abroad for adoption were backed by MPs yesterday and could be law hy the end of

Under the new legislation it will be an offence to bring a child into the country without the prior approval of the prop-er authorities and adoption agencies. It will also entitle adopted children to automatic British citizenship if one parent was British at the time the adoptioo was made.

Opening the second reading of his Adoption (Inter-country Aspects) Bill, Mark Oaten, the Liberal Democrat MP for Winchester, said the legislation would send a clear signal to those trying to avoid the rules that "bringing a child into this country in the back of a car, late at night into Margate, will result in prosecution".

The same standards should be applied to those seeking to PRIVATE MEMBER'S BELL BY SARAH SCHAEFER Political Reporter

adopt from abroad as at home, he said. "Regrettably there are estimated to be about 100 cases each year where people try to avoid the adoption procedures and hring children into the UK without being properly assessed to become adoptive parents."

Endorsing the Bill, John Hutton, a Health minister, said the Government recognised the need for legislation as the circumstances of adoption had changed considerably since the 1976 Adoption Act. "Intercountry adoption has been growing steadily in recent years, providing an option for people who cannot have children of their own or who wish to extend their existing families," he said, "It is the Government's view that the opportunity to adopt from overseas should

continue to be facilitated."

For too long adoption had been seen as a "last resort", which was a "misconception", he said. "Adoption must be seen as a positive option for children ... for some children it provides a fresh start and possibly the only opportunity of experiencing family life."

David Chaytor, Labour MP for Bury North, said the Bill was 'extremely timely" because the Kosovo crisis would "inevitably encourage more people in Western Europe, and the United Kingdom particularly, to take an interest in this issue out of a genuine humanitarian response to many, many thousands of individual personal tragedies". Alan Duncan, a Tory health

country does need a proper legislative framework for intercountry adoption and the sooner we get it the better." The Bill was given an unopposed second reading.

spokesman, said the Opposition

welcomed the Bill. "This

Mo Mowlam, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, relaxing with Hexham, Northumberland, during a visit to mark World Book Day

pupils at Beaufront school, near Mike Scott/North News & Pictures

Ousted MP in setback

NEWARK VACANCY BY ANDREW GRICE

FIONA JONES, the former MP for Newark, suffered a setback yesterday in her legal battle to

resume her Commons seat. The High Court was told that the Commons Speaker and the Attorney General were both "neutral" over whether a hy-election should be held in Newark to fill the vacancy created when she was convicted for making a false declaration over her election expenses. Mrs Jones had hoped to receive a "positive" declaration.

Although Mrs Jones won her appeal, the Commons authorities are applying to the High Court to clear confusion over whether a vacancy can be filled without a by-election. If there is a contest, she is unlikely to be chosen by Labour as the party's candidate.

Yesterday's hearing was adjourned and a full hearing is expected to be held next week.

So now we know, Lilley is for turning

THE DEPUTY leader of the Conservative Party. Peter Lilley, has faced a barrage of almost universal criticism and ridicule from Tory hackbenchers and several members of the Shadow Cahinet for his change of tone towards health and other public services.

His speech, given earlier this week for true believers to celebrate (slightly early) the 20th anniversary of Baroness Thatcher heing elected prime minister, was certainly ill-timed. Emphasising that there is more to life than defending and extending the free market he declared: "There are distinct limits to applying the free-market paradigm in the public services."

The speech had the full approval of William Hague but barsh criticism of it came Leigh of the No Turning Back Group, who led the attacks on him at the 1922 Committee.

Mr Lilley is still a member of the group, of which he was a founder member in 1983, but he railed to attend its monthly dinner two days after the speech and memhers were angry that he was kicking away the Thatcherite ladder, up which he had climbed to prominence. Even Alan Duncan, a close friend of Mr Hague, was furious that Mr Lilley had cut the ground from under his feet.

Only three weeks ago, Mr Duncan, a health spokesman, issued a Central Office press release of a much-praised speech on health care he had given to the Social Market Foundation.

lissident

ical fight.

In it he said: "The NHS cannot do everything, so there will always be more to be done. This requires us to define a Conservative philosophy of health care ... we need to add a thriving personal sector to the public sector NHS we already have."

Mr Lilley himself has a mass of words for eating, not least in the lecture he gave in 1989 just before he secured his cabinet place. Speaking on "Thatcherism - The Next Generation" he dealt with market forces in the public sector services. He said: "Every individual is a market force. It is true that the principles of choice, reward for quality and devolution of responsibilities have not been allowed to operate within the state health and education systems. But it is not clear why these principles should be anathema."

Tuesday's £125-a-head dinner at the London Hilton Hotel for 1,000 of the faithful was like a revivalist rally for the ancien regime but only included 22 Tory MPs. The meal was held to mark

(two weeks early) the anniversary of the Conservatives coming to power in 1979 and everyone, including Sir Edward Heath, was on their best behaviour.

Revealing that she could never have made it to the top without her husband, Sir Denis Thatcher, "let alone go on and on and on", Lady Thatcher described his reaction when she told him she



THE WEEK IN WESTMINSTER

MICHAEL BROWN

intended to seek the party Lord! You must he mad, but I'll support you all the way'." Lady Thatcher continued: "I suspect that Ted Heath would agree with at least half that statement "

There was something for everyone in a speech that recalled the glory days but offered strong support to the Government on the Balkan war. Both John Major and Lord Hurd of Westwell, who were absent, faced strong implied criticism.

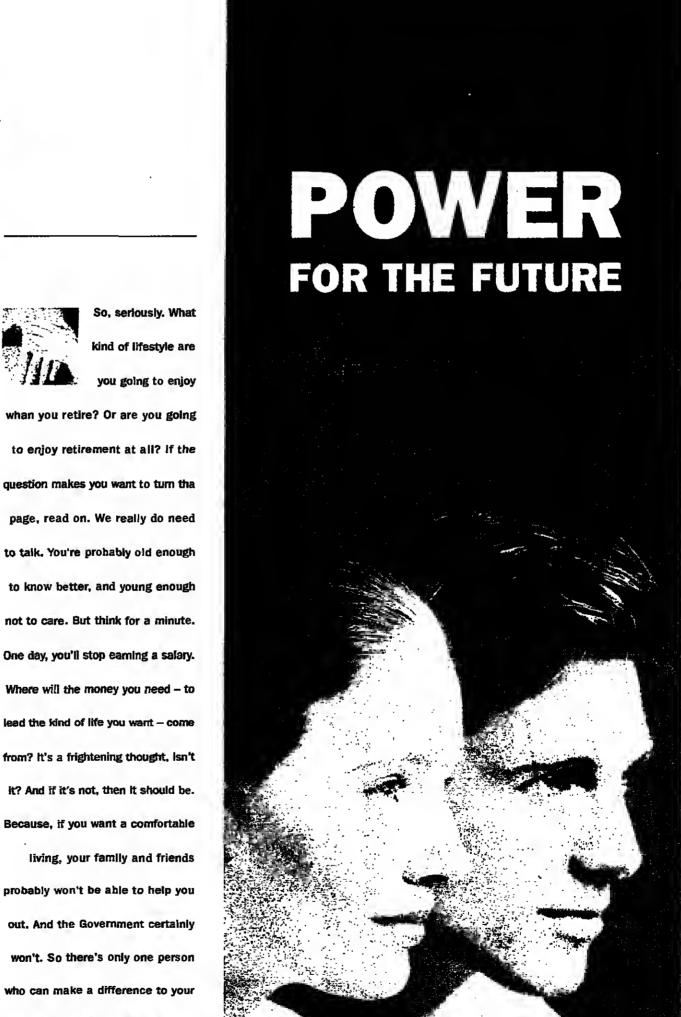
"Appeasement has failed in the Nineties as it failed in the Thirties," she said. "For eight years I have called for Serbia to be stopped. The West could have stopped Milosevic in Slovenia or Croatia in 1991 or in Bosnia in 1992."

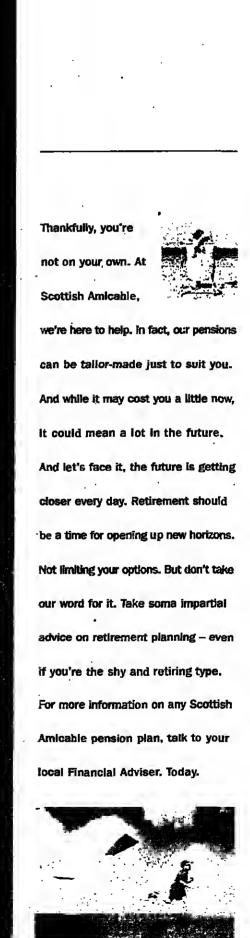
ATTEMPTS BY this column to obtain speeches, lectures and articles, written by Peter Lilley during his Eighties days as an unreconstructed Thatcherite, drew a hlank at Conservative Central Office.

Presumably, to rewrite history and erase all memories of his past policies and speeches, the party bookshop, which was once housed in the reception area at Smith Square, has been abolished. Frantic searches for old No Turning Back Group pamphlets and Centre for Policy Studies lectures given by Mr Lilley ended, finally, with a single phone call to Labour's Milibank headquarters.

Within minutes a thick wad of such publications landed, with a thud, at The Independent's nook in the Press Gallery. All carefully indexed with the Lahour Party Library stamp, they are now more likely to be read by Labour ministers, as old Tory favourites such as the Private Finance Initiative for Hospital Building, stalled under the Tories, gain fresh momentum under this Government. Students of free market economics are now beating a path to Millbank, which has one of the hest lihraries of past Conservative

Party publications. Labour Party officials refuse to be drawn, however, on whether copies of the old Labour constitution - complete with Clause Four-were also still available.





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Holid to half









Irn Bru girds its loins for Coca-Culloden

By JACK O'SULLIVAN Scotland Currespondent

IRN BRU, the fizzy drink, "made in Scotland from girders", is heading for battle with Coca Cnla. The American multinational confirmed this week it is determined to crack Scotland which, alone among the world's oations, has failed to make Coke its favourite drink

A special Coca-Cnla sales team has been recruited to dislodge Irn Bru from the numbernne spot. "The new team." said a Coca-Cola spokesman, "is already up and running."

The plan is to expand production at the company's nnly plant in East Kilbride. One tactic will be Coca-Cola's policy of "glocalisation", tailoring promotions to local markets. As sponsors of Euro 96 and the Warld Cup Finals, Coca Cala ran competitions in the Scottish media offering the prize of tickets for Scottish matches.

Cnca-Cola, cagey this week for fear of upsetting potential huyers, is confident that its new marketing stormtroopers will make an impact in Scotland. And there is much to fight for. Scotland has the highest per capita spending in Britain on soft drinks. It is said that, in parts of Glasgow, some households drink nothing else; no tea, coffee or water, just large bottles of Irn Bru.

Irn Bru, though dwarfed by itable business and ready for a chewing gum.





WHEN IM A BURGER MANT TO BE MACHED DOWN WITH IRN-BRU.



Irn Bru, which has recently moved away from its traditional image with a series of 'hip' adverts, which have, according to journalist Pat Kane, 'descotified' the drink

fight. Last year its owner. Lanarkshire-based AG Barr, had a turnover of £107m and opening up operations in Russia, sold a millioo bottles in its first year.

The recipe, like that for Coca-Cola, is a secret and only two men are thought to know how to mix the 32 ingredients. One of them is Robin Barr, the chairman of AG Barr, and the other is his cousin Michael Barr. The drink's taste is hard to define, although aficionados Cnca-Cnla, is a highly prof- likeo it to liquefied Juicy Fruit

The battle to shake up the sweet drinks market could be bitter for Coca-Cola, according to Pat Kane, the Scottish journalist and singer with the band

tional Sunday morning breakfast of four Paracetamni and a bottle of Irn Bru. "It's a great hangover cure," he said. "We love to stodge nurselves up with lots of junk and the sugary objected. Irn Bru advertising

try's attachment to the tradi-stuff sticks to the ribs the best." A long-standing grudge persists between Cnca-Cnla and Irn Bru, which MacDonald's preferred to offer in its Scottish outlets until Cnca-Cnla

has made fun of its rival's rel- AG Barr has in recent years ative unpopularity. In me advertisement, featuring a cow, the slogan reads: "Wheo I become a burger, I want to be washed down with Irn Bru." To beat nff the competiting

given the product an image makeover. It was nriginally developed as a non-alcoholic beverage for "puddles" who stirred vats of molten iroo and were prone to pasty, alcohol-

related accidents. For years Irn Bru maintained that manufacturing image, then the Leith Agency in Edinburgh took over the drink's advertising in the Nineties.

Gerry Farrell, creative director explained: "The nld "made from girders" image means nothing to a London kid whn is into Hip Hop and wears Tommy Hilfiger clothes. We had to provide a crash course in Irn Bru. We think we can reach nut to these people better than Coca Cola can. We cannnt nutspend them so we have to nut-think them."

The result of all this, said Pat Kane, is that Irn Bru has beeo "descotified". "The danger is that Coca-Cnla, by using its policy of localisation, will make its drink look Scottish."

Irn Bru, despite the bravado of its advertising agency, is a little shaken. "This story emanated from Coca-Cola and Barr Soft Drinks have oo further comment to make," said its spokeswiman. The drink, however, retains a crucial advantage, said Pat Kane, "Coca-Cola could never be advertised as a hangover cure

Salmon catch at record low

LAST YEAR's catch of spring- By MICHAEL MCCARTHY run salmon in England and Environment Correspondent Wales was the worst oo record. the Environment Agency

revealed yesterday. The figures confirm the spiralling decline of the species and indicate that wild salmon stocks are at critically low levels.

The agency said they justify the cootroversial catch-and-release bylaws brought in this month, which for the first half of the seasoo stop all netting in England and Wales, and compel anglers to return all fish alive

to the water. In the season up to 1 June compared to 1,381 in 1997 and 2,691 in 1996. Catches by netsmen suffered a similar decline, with only 832 fish taken in the 1998 early season, compared to 1,528 in 1997 and 2,913 in 1996.

In 1989 the rod catch in the season to June was 3,199 fish, with 4,742 takeo in nets.

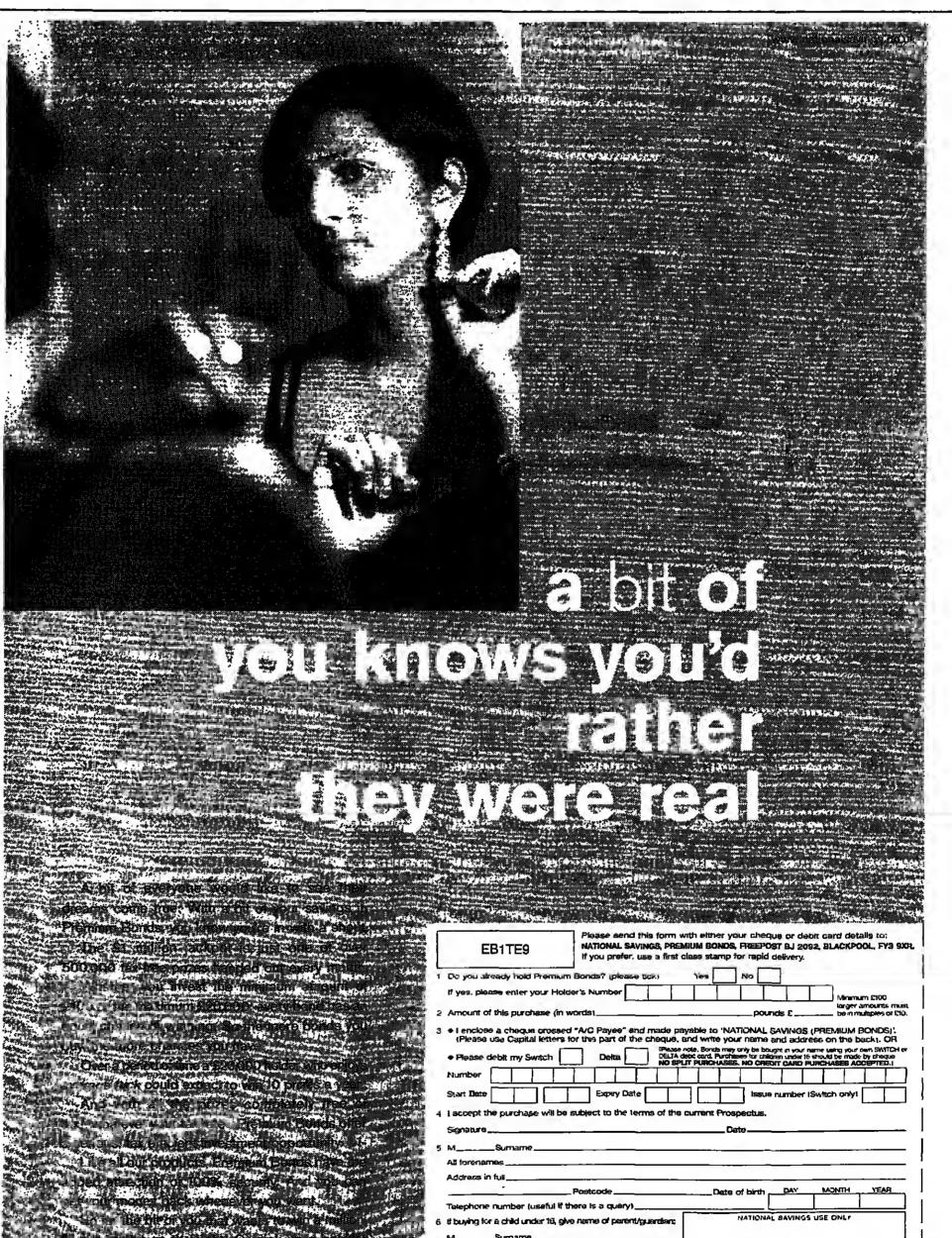
Oo individual rivers the decline over the last two decades has been catastrophic. In 1978,

early-season anglers on the Sev-ern took 718 fish; last year they took 76. On the Wye, 20 years ago the corresponding catch was 3,684; last year it was 78.

Dr David Clarke, the agency's head of fisheries, said the figures were a clear sign the new regulations are needed. The shortage of larger salmon, especially those running early in the year, reinforces the need for the bylaws that came into force on 15 April," he said.

But the new restrictions have been controversial. On the Se reported taking only 758 fish, ern and Wye they have halted use of a fishing trap used since Saxon times, the putcher, once

> John Walters, a putcher fisherman on the Severn whose seasoo has been shortened by six weeks, said the agency was depriving him of his livelihood. "I'm unhappy about it," he said. "They say the stocks are bad hut that's not what we say."





huving for a (great) grandchild, give name of the parent

Blackadder made the official hero of English history

VISITORS TO the Millennium By PAUL MCCANN Dome will have the chance to see Cate Blanchett, Dame Judi Dench and Miranda Richardson jostling for the throne as the true Elizabeth I in a special Blackadder version of British history. The first new episode of the show for 10 years will be viewed by 50,000 people a day on Britain's higgest movie

Rowan Atkinson, Tony Robinson - who plays the much put-upon sidekick Baldrick -Stephen Fry and Hugh Laurie will join a crowded cast of stars to tell a flawed version of the nation's history.

The £3m film, provisionally titled Blackadder Back And Forth, will see the regular cast travel backward and forward in time to take part in key historical events. These include the huilding of a prehistoric children's playground at Stonehenge, an incident in which Baldrick causes the beheading of Charles I and a Battle of Hastings with a new outcome.

"Blackadder finds himself in a time machine modelled on drawings from a hook hy Leonardo da Vinci," the executive producer, Geoffrey Perkins, said. "Unfortunately, it has been huilt hy Baldrick out of empty Weetahix cartons and they spend their time strug-gling to get hack to the present

in Montreaux

Cate Blanchett: Will be on screen at the Dome

day." The film is to feature characters from contemporary British culture, and the producers hope to sign up the foothaller David Beckham so they can recreate his sending off against Argentina in the 1998 World Cup.

Other stars likely to appear include the generation of British comedians who became famous partly thanks to the four 2,500 people at a time. original series of Blackadder. These include Rik Mayall, Adrian Edmondson, Dawn French and Jennifer Saunders. The film will he written by the orig- First World War.

inal authors of Blackadder, Ben Elton and Richard Curtis, who took time out from scripting Notting Hill to work on the

"A lot of the jokes and the sto-ryline are unfinished." said Tony Robinson when announcing the film at the Montreaux Television Festival. "But that was the way we always did it. It was a collaborative venture and was often left until the last

Queen Elizabeth I will be a major character in the film and the producers hope to sign up the award-winning actresses who have played her in recent years: "Blackadder wants to find out this time whether Elizabeth was a virgin queen or a hig ginger tease." said Mr

The film is a collaboration between the BBC, which is providing Mr Perkins, its head of comedy, the independent production company Tiger Aspect and BSkyB, which is sponsoring the Millennium Dome's entertainment zone, Skyscape. The film will be shown on two screens 20 metres wide, in cinemas each capable of seating

On television, the four Blackadder series lampooned the Plantagenets, the Tudors, the Georgian Regency and the



Rowan Atkinson as Blackadder with Tony Robinson as the put-npon Baldrick in the television series

Sir Nigel to play 'Lear' in Japan

BY DAVID LISTER Media and Culture Editor

SIR NIGEL Hawthorne is to star as King Lear in a production of the play by the Japanese director, Yukio Ninagawa

Sir Niger's first leading stage role since his knighthood will be one of the highlights of the coming Royal Shakespeare Company season. The RSC is co-producing the play with Thelma Holt, a West End theatre producer.

A Japanese actor will play the Fool, and the production will open in Japan in September before transferring to the Barbican in London and then to Stratford-upon-Avon.

Announcing the RSC's winter season yesterday, the anniversary of Shakespeare's birthday, Adrian Noble, artistic director, said the success of the film Shakespeare in Love "can do nothing but good for the theatre". Twenty of the actors in Shakespeare in Love had "considerable RSC pedigrees" and most of the costumes were hired from its wardrobes.

He added: "I think the cinema has just about caught up with this matter of Shakespeare. In the 19th century the great popular art form in Europe was opera and the composers like Puccini and Verdi pillaged Shakespeare for stories, themes and characters."

Mandels GUARANTEES OUR PRICES CAN'T BE BEATEN' Life for bus

driver who killed boy, 8 BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE

A BUS driver who befriended an eight-year-old passenger and let him hand out bus tickets before sexually abusing and then murdering him was life yesterday.

After 13 hours' deliberation, a jury found 28-year-old Darren Vickers, from Gorton, Greater Manchester guilty of murdering Jamie Lavis on 5 May 1997. The boy's dismembered re-

mains were found on a golf

course in Stockport, Greater Manchester, five months after his disappearance. No cause of death was ascertained and there was no

forensic science evidence to link Vickers to the killing. Yesterday at Manchester

Crown Court, Mr Justice Forbes told Vickers his crimes were "truly wicked".

He said: "Jamie's hrief life was cruelly and prematurely hrought to an end because he had the tragic misfortune of boarding your hus. You manipulated the family, the press and the police. You lied and lied and lied again." During the seven-week trial,

the court had heard how Jamie, from Ashton-under-Lyme, had boarded Vickers' 219 bus in nearby Openshaw after he became bored staying at home on a bank holiday.

Vickers allowed him to change gear and count change. He also gave him money to buy drinks, ensuring that the child stayed on his hus all day.

Passengers saw Vickers ruffle the boy's hair, and another driver saw Jamie with his face pressed against the window of the driver's cabin. The court with the boy's mother, Karen



Jamie Lavis, 8, was 'befriended, groomed and effectively sednced' before being killed by Darren Vickers

was "grooming the boy for his own base motives".

When the day ended, Vickers drove the boy to Dukenfield, where he collected his car. Shortly afterwards, at an unknown location, he stripped and abused the boy murdered him, dismembered the body and then concealed his remains. The hoy's head and some of his limbs have never

In a perverse twist, Vickers then ingratiated himself with the boy's family. During the high-profile search for Jamie, Vickers was filmed for TV news bulletins comforting the family and appealing for information. Vickers used a radio scanner

to listen for information on the turn up at reported sightings before the detectives. He also claimed to have

started a sexual relationship

was told that, all along, Vickers Spooner - something she de-

Brian Leveson QC, for the prosecution, told the court only two people really knew what had happened after Vickers lured the youngster into his car.

"Jamie Lavis isn't here to tell us, and his attacker hasn't told us yet," he said.

After yesterday's decision, Ms Spooner said she felt relieved. "I don't really want to say how I feel," she said. "I hate the sight of him. Jamie can rest in peace now. We have got what we wanted. I hope [Vickers] suffers like I have suffered with my family for the last two years,"

Mr Justice Forbes praised Detective Superintendent Roy Rainford and his colleagues at Greater Manchester Police for their hard work on the case. He also thanked two children. Zoe and Ashley, who helped the police to catch Vickers, and awarded them £150 each from public funds for their help.

Younger adults hardly ever speak to neighbours

A QUARTER of people aged By JEANETTE PEARSON under 35 rarely or never speak to their neighbours, according to research published today.

A report by Royal Mail rerealed they are more likely to keep in touch with someone on say they would not know their the other side of the world, with more than a third making regular contact with a friend or relative overseas.

A third of young adults only occasionally exchange pleas-antries with a neighbour, the Royal Mail's 21st Century Fam-

often chat with people living nearby and more than half say they are close friends. Nearly a third of under-35s

neighbour if they saw them, would only offer to help a neighbour if it was absolutely necessary and do not want to get to know them any better.

Stephen Davie, director of international communications for Royal Mail said: "The globily report showed. But more al village continues to shrink than 70 per cent of over-55s and in these days of improved

communication we are just as likely to feel we are neighbours' with someone across

the world as across the street." The report also revealed people live further away from relatives now than in the past. although most still live within an hour's journey. It showed that 72 per cent of grandparents still see their grandchildren at least once a week.

Just over one-third of adults in Britain would like to live abroad in the future, with the US, Australia and Spain the



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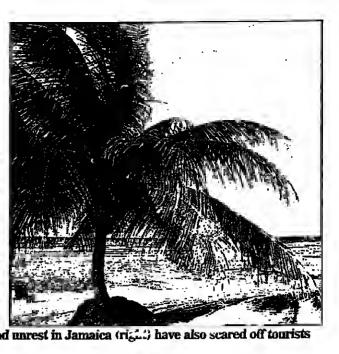








مكذا من الاحل



Great places to visit, but no one wishes they were here

HOLIDAYMAKERS who have not yet booked their summer bolidays could be in line for the pick of thousands of hargain breaks. With one week to go before the main summer season begins, Britain's mass-market travel companies are offering big discounts as they try to of-

fload unsold package holidays. The situation is so grim that the launch of summer 2000 holiday brochures, expected this week, has been postponed because of poor sales this season.

BY SIMON CALDER Travel Editor

Optimistic forecasts within the travel industry have been confounded by recent events. Demand for holidays in Croatia and the Ionian islands of Greece has fallen sharply because of the conflict in the Balkans. In Turkey, the threats by Kurdish separatist guerrillas against tourists have deterred many holidaymakers. Further afield, a Foreign Of-

fice announcement on Wednesday advising against travel to Jamaica has also hit bookings. The government warning came after demonstrations against increased fuel tax on the Caribbean island spread into violent conflict. Roadblocks were set up on several main highways, including the only link to the airport in the capital. Kingston. The first British Airways flight from the airport since last Sunday touched down at Gatwick yesterday.

Richard Branson's latest enterprise, Virgin Sun, has cut bolidays from brochures. The flight-only fares to £99 return to a range of Mediterranean destinations in May. Other operators are offering self-catering deals for as little as £129 for a week. Prices are likely to fall to 15kg. If last summer's patstill further in the remaining days before peak season schedules begin next Saturday.

Britain's biggest holiday company Thomson, is trying to weed out customers bunting

As if this wasn't bad enough, last-minute bargains from bria, a villa specialist recently those who book higher-priced company has begun charging late-bookers a £10 fee for coach transfers between the destination and the resort, and reduced their baggage allowance by 5kg tern is repeated, the move will

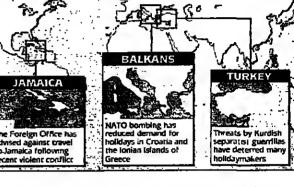
> last-minute holidaymakers. Upmarket operators have also been left with unsold holidays. Simply Tuscany & Um-

milk an extra £4m from 400,000

taken over by Thomson, has cut prices in half to fill flights and accommodation in Italy during the first half of May.

Thomson is determined not to lose in the battle for market share, even if this means slasbing prices still further. It has warned its nearest rival, Airtours, that it will cut holiday prices if necessary.

Airtours, meanwhile is considering a bid for another big tour operator, First Choice. If



market leader.

■ Virgin Trains is cashing in on than doubled some rail fares to an extra £45.

surge in entrepreneurship.

This, in turn, is the fruit of a

bugely improved education

one-time national inferiority

successful, the resulting com- the South-west for the week pany would become the UK's of the eclipse. Low-price tickets are being removed from sale, leaving Supersaver fares the total eclipse in south Devon as the cheapest available. Travand Cornwall on 11 August. ellers between Birmingham The rail company has more and Penzance will bave to pay

Mandelson aide feared worst |£1m homes go within hours

PETER MANDELSON'S closest By Andrew Grice aide suspected all along that he would bave to resign from the Government if his secret £373.000 loan from Geoffrey Robinson became public.

Benjamin Wegg-Prosser, former special adviser to Mr Mandelson, believed that his boss would be bounded out of office to stay in government". by the media even had be not breached the rules on ministerial conduct.

In a television programme tomorrow. Mr Wegg-Prosser former paymaster general. says he knew there would be "a

Political Editor

lot of pressure" on Mr Mandelson "because the newspapers would put a certain construction on it which would not look good for him and which would make it difficult for him

Mr Wegg-Prosser's father a solicitor, had drawn up the loan agreement between Mr Mandelson and Mr Robinson, the

delson, tells the same programme that the former secretary of state for trade and industry was not focusing on the loan because he had been "outed" as a bomosexual by Matthew Parris on television. "He was, in the period before

the [loan] revelation was made, worried about his private life," Mr Harris says. "He was focused on that. Actually, nobody cares about sexuality in politics any more. They do - oddly Robert Harris, the author enough - care about money and

and a close friend of Mr Man- he followed the wrong ball." Politicians interviewed suggest Mr Mandelson will make a cabinet comeback. Lord Sawyer, the former Labour general secretary, says Mr Mandelson could "flower again" and be better off after two years "doing the nuts and bolts" of an MP's job.

The Real Peter Mandelson will be shown on Channel 4 at 8pm tomorrow. It is presented by Donald Macintyre, whose biography, Mandelson, is published by HarperCollins.

DUBLIN'S BOOMING economy

reached a new high-water mark when 16 new homes each with a film price tag were sold yesterday within hours of going on the market. The buyers were mainly pro-

fessional couples in their 30s, prompting acid comments about the Republic's emerging young "O'Ligarchy".

The houses are in the southern suburb of Carrickmines, many miles from central Dublin where a forest of construction cranes bas

BY SENAN MOLONY

sprouted as evidence of Ireland's remarkable renaissance. The country is expected to have growth of 8 to 10 per cent in 1999. This is admittedly down from an unparalleled 12 per cent last year, but it builds on double-digit growth stretch-ing back almost to the beginning of the decade.

House prices across the Irish capital doubled between 1994 and 1997, and, in some cases, have doubled again

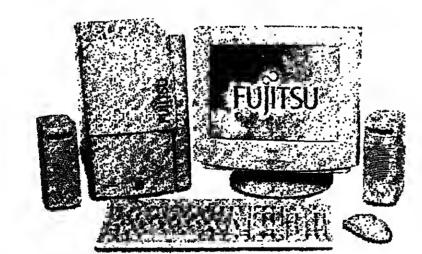
since. The price of a standard complex. These entrepreneurs semi in outer suburbia now are now making money hand begins at £130,000 - beady gains over fist. from the days when artisan Most of the money comes dwellings barely a mile from

from export earnings garnered Molly Mallone's statue in the from fashion, music, marketing and, overwhelmingly, informatown centre sold for only tion technology. The financial muscles of Dubliners stuck in old-style, the young people behind the property boom stem from a

fixed-salary jobs have not seen the same gains, and the result is an increasingly two-tier society in which property prices have spiralled beyond the system and the shedding of a reach of those on more mod-

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Ghetto priest rallies Jamaican poor

THEY CALL him the Ghetto BY PHIL DAVISON Priest, something of a male version of Mother Teresa, most slums in white rohe, blue sash and sandals. The fact that he has written a number-one reggae single and dozens of musicals, and writes a newspaper column, gives him considerably more street cred than your

average ciergyman. Lung, a soft-spoken, whitehaired 59-year-old Jamaican, is at the forefront of protests their wages?" he asked. "The against sweeping tax and price rises. Nine people died in this week's demonstrations. It was the worst violence in Jamaica in 20 years and sent shivers around the economically struggling Caribbean

Father HoLung, Jamaicanborn but whose oriental features lead strangers to think he is a Buddhist priest, insists he wants to stay out of politics but he is already being compared by diplomats in the region to Haiti's Jean-Bertrand Aristide. the Catholic priest who swept to his nation's presidency at the start of the decade.

At an unprecedented protest meeting of Jamaican church leaders on Thursday, Father HoLung, founder of the Missionaries of the Poor group, launched a fiery attack on the government's tax and price increases and what he said was the abandonment of the poor in Jamaica and elsewhere in the Caribbean. "There must be a full rollback of the price rises.

in Kingston

often seen tramping Kingston's I am talking right now," he told several hundred people from various religious dominations in Kingston's Liguanea park. "Now! Now! Now!" the crowd chanted as he held his microphone out towards them, pop singer-style.

"Don't you think they igov-Now, Father Richard Ho- ernment leaders] should maybe suffer with us? Don't you think they should take a cut in Church is a sleeping giant. If the whole Church were to come together, we'd be 90 per cent of the country. We are not a violent people by nature. We don't want no burning of tyres or blocking of roads. What we want them to say is, 'We were wrong, we made a mistake'."

On Thursday night Prime Minister P J Patterson called him to say he could not personally annul the tax rises announced a week ago and which led to rioting and clashes with police on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Fourteen policemen were injured, six police stations attacked, 1\$2 people arrested, scores of shops looted and dozens of hulldings set ablaze. Life was back to normal in most areas yesterday but residents retained roadblocks in several ghetto areas to keep

Mr Patterson noted that a five-member "hroad-hased" crisis committee was reviewing Party leader. Edward Seaga. Father HoLung said the new the tax and price rises and whose supporters were widely inter-denominational church



Participants at the Christian Unity for Peace and Justice rally in Kingston calling for an end to the violence in Jamaica

would announce its findings tomorrow. The government would consider its report on Monday. In the meantime, the opposition Jamaican Labour tion march for tomorrow.

believed to have encouraged the riots, said protests would continue until the increases were dropped. He called an opposi-

Father Holang said the new atonement".

protest movement, Christian Unity for Peace and Justice. would keep up the pressure with a rally in Kingston oo 1 May, described as a "day of national

run by Father HoLung's young "brothers" showed the difficulty of their task. They look after several hundred mentally or physically disabled Jamaicans, as well as dving Aids patients.

where roads are still blocked and where local gang leaders still rule

about the continuing danger, Brother Savio, a young Indian

week's violence was worst,

If there was ever any doubt

volunteer, recited a prayer in his car before we drove into the

After negotiating several roadblocks by driving on pavements or through rubble, he was eventually stymied by a steel girder. Leaders of the local "National Crew" gang showed no sign of removing it so we walked to one of Father

HoLung's shelters. At Thursday's gathering, in front of a large wooden cross draped with a tangled Jamaican flag to symbolise the "distress" of the nation, other clergymen went even further than Father HoLung, stirring their audience into a frenzy with fiery speeches interspersed with hymns and songs including "We shall overcome". It was the first time Jamaica's leading denominations had held a joint gathering.

"We can take no more. We are standing up for nonsense no longer," said a Catholic priest, Father Gregory Ramkissoon The poor must come out of the

trap of poverty. We must act." Bishop Tommy Holdsworth of the Greater Grace Temple said: "The people are saying, We are hungry. We can take no more'. There is a genuine cry from the people for help."

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The Rev Wynton William, a Baptist minister, said: "Our young people are very disappointed with the leadership of his country. They say our leadership has failed us. It is a

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Test cricketer raped woman in stadium

A CRICKETER in South Africa's BY JAMES ROBERTS World Cup squad was found guilty yesterday of rape.

Makhaya Ntini was convicted of raping a 22-year-old neigh-bour in the lavatory of a cricket ground in East London after offering her a lift home on 2 December The 21-year-old nternational plays in East London, on the east coast, for the Border provincial cricket side.

He has been dropped from the line-up for next month's World Cup tournament in England. The only black African to be selected for the national squad, Ntini played in Australia and England last year.

The United Cricket Board (UCB) managing director, Ali Bacher, said in a statement in Johannesburg that the board was disappointed by Ntini's conviction. "We believe rape is a heinous crime and our previous and current comments on this matter must not be construed in any other light," Mr Bacher said. "We understand there are definite grounds for appeal... The UCB will continue to support Makhaya until the legal process has been completed. Sadly Makhaya Ntini will be withdrawn from the South African squad for the World

Mr Bacher said the Western province cricketer, Alan Dawson, would replace Ntini. Before



Ntini: Dropped from team the judgment the UCB had said the rape charge against

Ntini did not affect his eligibility

for the national squad. Ntini, a pace-bowler, sobbed as the verdict was handed

down in court. He was discovered as a raw 15-year-old in Mdingi, a hlack township near King William's

Town near East London. Raymond Booi, the Border Cricket Board official who first spotted Ntini, said he was devastated. "My heart is broken because he was a model for South African youth," Mr Booi said.
"He is a loyal, non-aggressive

decent person." The UCB has been subject to government criticism that the national team is too "white"

Gandhi's power bid thwarted

Gandhi's Coogress party in India was blown off course yesterday when a number of allies formally declared they would not support her in parliament. In a meeting with the Pres-

dent KR Narayanan, she was able to offer only 230-odd MPs, which is more than 40 short of an absolute majority. But instead of dismissing her attempts to take power, he urged her to keep trying. All parties continued to fight

shy of a general election, and the efforts to form a workable coalition were continuing.

If, however, no party is successful, a poll will be inevitable. The Italian-born widow of the former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi would then discover whether the Congress party, which has held India in its thrall for almost all the 50 years of the country's independence. can regain power.

After Congress's failure became clear, Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) once again staked its claim to office and demanded it should be given another chance to govern,

THE BID for power by Sonia BY IAN MACKINNON

claiming the support of 270

As torch bearer of the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty. Mrs Gandhi had boldly declared just three days ago that her party had 272 MPs behind her. But several small parties who helped to bring down the BJP-led coalition have steadfastly refused to simply back Congress. The largest, the Mulayam Singh Yadav's Samajwadi party, was almost certainly seeking a seat-sharing pact in Uttar Pradesh, where Congress is its main opponent.

Smaller hut equally significant are the Revolutionary Socialist Party and the Forward Bloc, which aimed to persuade Congress to adopt a radical leftwing economic agenda.

Congress held out on all the demands, asserting that the only acceptable solution would be it heading a minority government. Yesterday its bluff was called when a Samajwadi party delegation representing its 20 MPs told the president they would vote for neither Congress nor the BJP.

Cricketer

ed woman

dhi's power thwarted

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High school shooting: Authorities ignored death threats, say parents, as evidence of bullying emerges

Police 'knew boy killers made bombs'

POLICE AND school officials By ANDREW GUMBEL appear to have ignored repeated warnings about Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, the Colorado high school killers, and may even have known that he pair were building pipe ombs in the basement of their ouses, it emerged yesterday. The father of a senior at plumbine High School, speakig on condition of anonymity, tid the Rocky Mountain News tlat he had printed out pages frim Eric Harris's Internet wibsite more than a year ago ard passed them to police heause they contained explift threats to explode bombs an "kill and injure ... as many

of you as I can". he father said he was dismajed when police failed to takeaction and he complained agan a few weeks later. "We conthually called hack," the fathe said. "They never called

The story fits into a pattern of complaints in which parents expressed alarm at threat; and intimidation, by Harris in particular, without any apparent response.

Brooks Brown, an off-again, on-agail friend of the killers who survived the shootings because he was warned away at the last minute by Harris. said his family protested after a death threat against him appeared on the Internet site. Issiah Shoels, the African American student shot dead in the school library, also complaned about harassment although it was not clear if his tornentors were the killers or sime other group at the

Suce Tuesday's carnage, Jeffeson County police have consistently denied receiving any warnings. Frank DeAngeis. theorincipal of Columbine High, aid yesterday that he in Littleton, Colorado

site or of any complaints of specific serious threats.

Making his first public appearance since the shootings, a highly emotional Mr De-Angelis appealed to students and young people everywhere to raise any concerns they have, "so other people don't have to go through what we've been through". Close to tears as he faced the television cameras, Mr DeAngelis seemed psychologically unprepared to face any shortcomings in his administration, merely saying that Columbine High was a "great school" and would continue to be one thanks to the close-knit family feeling among

its students and faculty.

Several present and former students, however, have come forward in the past few days saying that all members of the so-called Trenchcoat Mafia, the introspective clique to which Harris and Klebold belonged, knew how to make pipe bombs. One claimed that the police were aware before the attack that these were being manufactured in the two boys' homes with materials readily available from hardware stores carbon monoxide canisters, fuses, glass and nails. Gunpowder is highly restricted in Colorado, but is freely available from powerful fireworks on sale across the state line in

Neighbours of Harris have said they heard the sounds of bottles being smashed at his home last weekend, but never suspected they were to be used as shrapnel stuck on to the pair's home-made explosives. We thought it was a school project or something," one

It is not known where the student's parents or older brother were at the time.

More details also emerged vesterday of the weaponry used in the attack, which included a modified version of a notorious semi-automatic handgun, the TEC-9, much used by street gangs and featured in the movie Robocop. The pair also carried a 9mm semi-automatic carhine, a pump-action shotgun and a sawn-off double-harrelled hunting gun.

According to local media reports, the two semiautomatics were purchased legally from a licensed Colorado gun-dealer, although it seems that Harris and Klebold acquired them through an intermediary because they were too young to buy the weapons

According to one teenager in Littleton, arranging to buy such weaponry is not difficult. "I have a friend of a friend who could get me a 50-calibre rifle for \$200, or a fully automatic AR15 with bullets with exploding tips - which is totally ille-- for three or four hundred." said the teenager. Joe Costello, who attended a similar Littleton high school for a year and a half before ducking out because of teasing and bullying from the "jocks" - the same group that Harris and Klebold complained about. Interviews with similar

teenagers, who are marginalised in the conservative suburban atmosphere of Littleton, suggested that hullying by jocks is a serious problem. Mr Costello said he had heen pushed and beaten repeatedly and had rocks thrown at him, hut the school authorities anpeared uninterested in protecting him or punishing the well turned out, sporty jocks.



Mourners at a candlelight vigil in Denver for victims of Tuesday's Columbine High School massacre

China torture ordeal claim

BY TERESA POOLE in Peking

THE POLICE detained "Yusuf" last year in Urumqi, the capital of China's restive Muslim Xinjiang province, on suspicion that he had links with exiled ethnic Uighur nationalist organisations.

According to his account there was an underground area below the city's Public Security Bureau where the torture took place. "I was given electric shocks with electric batons The shocks were applied all over my body, including in my mouth and on my penis, which caused intense pain ...

"While tortured I was made to wear a kind of metal helmet which came down over Imvl eyes. The interrogators used this helmet to prevent fatalities. as some prisoners cannot bear the pain of torture and try to kill themselves by bashing their heads against the walls," he reported to Amnesty International, which this week published a detailed report alleging "gross and systematic" human rights violations in Xinjiang "which until now have gone virtually unnoticed by the international community".

The 92-page report details widespread torture, extraiudicial killings and other human rights abuses. Some male prisoners reported having horse hair or wires with spikes inserted into their penises.

Ever since the Communist victory in 1949, there have been disparate separatist movements in Xinjiang, angry at the Han Chinese dominion and the exploitation of the region's natural resources for Peking's benefit. A growing number of anti-Han riots, bombings and assassinations bave taken place in Xinjiang during the

According to Amnesty, Peking's response has been indiscriminate repression. Yusuf" was one of the relatively lucky ones: he was freed after a few weeks when his fam-AFP lly paid police £150.

There we over 30 wars being fought in the world. In many, children as young as seven are being used as soldiers. In some cases they're nothing but cannon fodder. It's almost unthinkable - yet today, an estimated 300,000 children are fighting in conflicts around the world. Children who can be maimed, brutalised and slaughtered in adults' wars.

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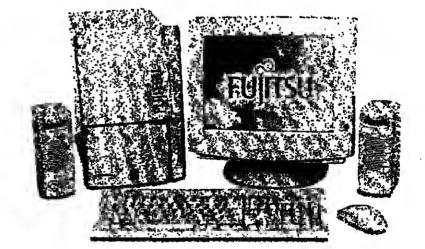
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Unita attacks launch new Angolan war

AT 3AM ON 18 December, guerrillas of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) attacked the village of Nunda in Huambo Province, central Angola. They ran through the village, looting and shooting, Woken from their sleep the villagers scrambled to escape into the dense undergrowth. Three men, one woman and a boy were killed. The woman was Joao Samba's wife,

When we heard the shooting we just had time to grab the traffic. Many survivors identichildren and run for it," Joao, 34, a carpenter, said. I took the But some government police two elder ones and my wife tied the baby on her back. The hullet hit her in the hack of the head and came out of her forebead. She fell on ber face, dead. but the baby was unhurt."

Joao relates this story standing barefoot in a bombed-out factory on the outskirts of government-controlled Huambo city. The factory is home to the first week of December. more than 7,000 newly displaced people who, like Joao. bave been forced, emptyhanded, from their homes by the resumption of Angola's 30year civil war. Huambo holds

BY ANNA RICHARDSON

120,000 newly arrived refugees. In the whole of Angola, more than 780,000 have been registered in the last year. They join the 1.3 million who remain displaced after the last bout of fighting, from 1992 to 1994. Angola's slide back towards

war began in April 1998, as the country was destabilised by a spate of vicious attacks on civilian targets - villages and road fied their assailants as Unita. and soldiers mounted copy-cat attacks, hlaming the raids on Unita. With hindsight it appears this destabilisation was conceived by Unita's machiavellian leader, Jonas Savimbi, as a means of provoking the government into a

fully fledged offensive. The war officially began in when President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos finally responded to this provocation by sending his newly acquired MiG fighter planes to bombard Unita's strongholds in Bailundo and

Huambo. The bombardment was carefully timed to coincide with the National Congress of the ruling MPLA party, of which Mr Dos Santos is also president. Grossly underestimating Unita's military strength, be

confidently expected to annihilate the rebels while reinforcing his position within the party and his 20-year-long presidency. "The government anticipated a quick, tidy clean-up when they went into Andulo and Baihindo," said a senior diplomat in the capital, Luanda. "In fact, they got a serious, bloody spanking. Once again Mr Savimbi had

fooled the world. Both the Angolan government and the United Nations Mission charged with overseeing the implementation of the 1994 peace accords knew that Unita had not complied fully with its commitments to disarm and demobilise its forces. But no one had gauged the true extent to which Mr Savimbi had used the full provided by the four-year peace process to retrain and re-

When the government's new



Ukrainian tanks rolled towards Bailundo and Andulo in December, they came face to face

with identical tanks in the

hands of Unita. One UN official based in Luanda said: "Government figures tell of running into their Unita counterparts while on sbopping trips to Eastern European arms fairs. At this rate the war could go on for ever."

Within a few weeks of the resumption of fighting proper, Unita had taken control of almost the whole of Angola's

countryside, driving the government, and most of the population, back into a handful of cities. The achievements of four years of relative peace have been reversed in a few months. The country is once again partitioned, only this time

nobody, not even the UN or aid agencies, bas access to the Unita side of the lines.

Troops demobilised by the UN are heing forcibly conscripted back into each army. Roads cleared of mines have heen planted with new mines.

Angola's first war was to win independence from Portugal. The second, from 1975 to 1991, was an offshoot of the Cold

War. The third was because Mr Savimbi refused to accept defeat in the country's first and only democratic presidential elections. But what is this one for?

We don't know why they are fighting again," Joso Samba We are just ordinary people, trying to stay alive."

The displaced in Huambo are being kept alive only by emergency food aid provided by

the World Food Programme Sixty per cent of the childrenad mitted to Huambo's central inspital have severe malnutriton.

A UN official offers hisown bleak explanation of this latest war: "There is no doubt about it," he says. "This time round the war is simply a battle is see which of the two leaders can steal the most, the fastest, and

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Battling with evil spirits in Budapest

WEEK IN THE LIFE ZOLTAN SOLYOMFI-NAGY, HUNGARIAN SHAMAN

A SHAMAN, in the ancient languages of the nomadic tribes of Siberia and inner knows": bow to contact the spirit world, bow to beal sicknesses. both spiritual and physical, and how to live in tune with nature. A little over a thousand

years ago, before their arrival in Europe and conversion to Christianity, the Hungarians too were an Asian nomadic people, who followed the old shamanic ways.

In a region in transition between communism and capitalism, where many are dazed and confused by the rapid pace of change, a return to Hungary's original Asian roots is attractive for many. Shamans such as Zoltan Solyomfi-Nagy are reviving those lost traditions.

Budapest-born Solyomfi-Nagy, 36, studied shamanism with native Americans on reservations in South Dakota and Nebraska. He says: Every morning I start the day with a simple ceremony that helps me clear my mind, heart and body. I light sweetgrass, and call on my spirit belpers, and sing a simple song. I light a smoke circle, which helps protect me, and I try to keep the essence of the smoke circle around me all day, as a

DURING THE week, Solyomfi-Nagy works part-time as a teacher of art and physical education. Weekday mornings are reserved for shamanistic practice and rituals, sometimes involving healing.

With its emphasis on spirituality, shamanic healing is particularly beloful for treating depression, says Zoltan Solyomfi-Nagy. "Depression is the most important healing work. Depression means somebody's soul is not whole. Shamanistic work can hring back the parts of the soul, so that it becomes whole again, and the person's life improves. He can find the answer to the problems of his life and get on a better life path. Such things are not a miracle, they are very simple, very old." Solvomfi-Nagy radiates the

kind of inner peace that is rarely encountered in a mod- . Solyomfi-Nagy. ern urban society. "A shaman is a priest, a healer and leader of ceremonies," be says, "a keeper of wisdom who knows the old songs and dances. Shamanic culture respects all kinds of life, and says that everything has a life, trees. grass, the sum, the moon, light, rivers, and of course human beings. Everything also exists universe. For shamans, this is



Zoltan Solyomfi-Nagy, keeper of wisdom Jim Lowney

in a parallel spirit world, and a shaman can contact that world through his spirit helper. Everyone has a spirit helper; its equivalent in Christianity is a guardian angel."

AT WEEKENDS Solyomfi-Nagy can devote more time to this creed. As interest spreads in shamanism, be organises weekend retreats in the Pilis mountains, north-west of Budapest. One of the mountains has been recognised by the Dalai Lama as one of the world's boly places. The highlight of the week-end is the "sweat lodge" cer-

emony, when the novitiates build a makeshift sauna from branches, and cover it with blankets and animal furs, while the ceremony leader places hot stones inside and sprays water on them. "The sweat lodge ceremony has existed for thousands of years. Herodotus records that many nations, such as the Scythians, hold the same ceremony. Everyone sits together, praying and singing. It is a purification ceremony, for physical, mental and psychic cleanliness. It's my favourite ceremony, when you feel that everybody becomes one," says

MANY SHAMANISTIC rituals involve entering a trance-like state, similar to that experienced by Sufi Muslims and Hasidic Jews, when, through repetition and chanting, they experience a feeling of "oneness" with God and the

a spirit journey when they travel to the other world, using tools such as drums, rattles and smoke to ease their passage. "The drum is my spirithorse, and its voice helps me enter the other reality. I don't use drugs or plants, only the drum's voice. The rattle helps me call my spirit helper, and the smoke, from sweetgrass, pine, juniper, cedar and sage, keeps me from spiritual danger, if there are unfriendly spirits. The most important things happen in what we call non-ordinary reality"."

A THOUSAND years of Christianity, and 40 of Communism all but wiped out most traces of shamanism in Hungary. But the country's folk tales and folk songs still contain shamanistic themes and motifs. Even now, in villages, elderly women forecast the future by filling a sieve with stones, shaking it and analysing the patterns. "The Hungarian word for God is 'Isten', but that is not a Christian term - it originally meant the ancient one'. Today more and more people are returning to the old knowledge. The old messages become alive again, that we are all related. and that all life is a different aspect of one creature.

The spiritual life is there for everybody, and we are all children of the earth. But I don't want to wave a big flag that I am a shaman and tell people to follow the shamanic way. Everyone who is interested can find it for themselves."

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BUSINESS

BRIEFING

Mitsubishi closure costs 240 jobs

THE JAPANESE electronics giant Mitsubishi dealt a fresh blow to Scotland yesterday by amouncing the closure of its video recorder manufacturing plant in Livingston with the

Mitsubishi blamed the shutdown on severe overcapacity in the European video market. The closure is part of a world-wide rationalisation programme involving 14,500 job cuts, and follows Mitsubishi's decision earlier this year to shut its Apricot computer plant in Glenrothes with the loss

Bank chief slates bonds tax



vith evil

Budapest

THE deputy governor of the Bank of England yesterday launched a stinging attack on EU proposals to impose a withholding tax on bonds. David Clementi (pictured), speaking at The Economist's UK Financial Services Conference, said that if the tax was imposed there is a very real

business would relocate,

not just outside London but outside the EU, thus further undermining any economic rationale for the proposal". He added: "The Bank continues to believe that it is important to avoid any scheme that would damage EU financial markets."

Kingfisher buys North-east chain

Kingfisher has bought Dickens, a bome and garden retail chain based in the North-east, through its French-based DIY subsidiary Castorama.

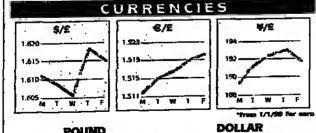
Financial terms of the deal were not disclosed, but Kingfisher said Dickens had net assets of £27m. Dickens' stores in Newcastle, Washington, Darlington and Shiremoor, which have a total of 40,000 square metres of retailing space, are to be converted to its B&Q Warehouse format, Kinglisher added.

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FTSE SmallCap	2522.20	13.90	0.55	2793.80	1834.40	4.22				
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Belgium Bel20	3233.35	-20.88	-0.64	3713_21	2696.26	2.04				
Amsterdam Exch	561.23	-0.33	-0.06	600.85	366.58	1.85				
France CAC 40	4262.43	-29.42	-0.69	4416.00	2881.21	1.69				
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5 Korea Comp	750.99	10.59	1,43	780.73	277,37	0.92				
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US	5.00	-0.69	5.27	-0,60			5.60	0.38
Japan	0.15	-0.50	0.21	-0.47	1,54	-0.26	2.29	-0.11
Germany	2.59	-1.05	2.58	1.26	3.85	-1.08	4.81	-0.66
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Dollar .	1.6150	+0.21c	1.6670	Sterling	0.6192	-0.08p	0.5999
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Yeп	192.79		215.40	Yen	119.35	-40.34	129.85
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Gold (5)	283.15	-0.40	314.05	RPI	164.10	2.10	160
Silver (5)	5.18		·· 6 <u>.3</u> 2	Base	Rates	5-25	7.2

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	2.3803	Mexican (nuevo peso)	13.99
tralia (5)	20.12	Netherlands (guilders)	3.2278
tria (schillings)	ED 15	New Zealand (\$)	2.8175

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Augustin (5)	2.3803	Mexican (nuevo peso)	13.9
Australia (5)	20.12	Netherlands (guilders)	3.227
Austria (schillings)	59.16	New Zealand (\$)	2.817
Belgium (francs)	2.3173	Norway (kroner)	12.2
Canada (5)	0.8451	Portugal (escutios)	292.2
Cyprus (pounds)	10.96	Saudi Arabia (riais)	5.890
Denmark (kroner)	8,7851	Singapore (5)	2,638
Finland (markka)		South Africa (rands)	9.500
France (francs)	9.6097	Spain (pesetas)	243.2
Germany (marks)	2.8749	Sweden (kronor)	13.1
Greece (drachma)	478.81	Sweden (North	2.358
Hong Kong (5)	12.09	Switzerland (francs)	55.7
Ireland (punts)	1.1527	Thailand (bahts)	59732
Indian (nupees)	62.14	Turkey (Ilrasi)	1.571
Israel (shekels)	6.0153	USA (S)	1.5712
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Italy (lira)	188.32	Rates for indication purpo	ises only
Japan (yen)	- 001E		
Malaysia (ringgits)	0.0013	Source Thomas Cook	

Europe and US head for clash over policy for euro

EUROPEAN FINANCE minis- BY DIANE COYLE ters and the US administration are poised for a clash over sluggish growth in Europe and the weakness of the euro.

US officials are expected to use Monday's meeting of Group of Seven ministers and central bankers to urge their European counterparts to boost growth and to share with the US the burden of soaking up imports from Asia. The weak euro has become a symbol in the US of European economic

The International Monetary Fund added its pressure yesterday, urging the European

framework," the IMF said.

Central Bank to be more open about its policies and to respond to low inflation. Although prais-ing the ECB's "sensible and pragmatic" approach to monetary policy, the IMF agreed that the weakness of the euro since its 1 January launch reflected doubts about growth in the euro area.

"It was particularly important at the early stages of the ECB, in view of uncertainties for the outlook in the euro area and the global economy, that the public understand and have

The new currency remains close to its low against the US dollar hovering just above \$1.06 yesterday. It has lost about 10 per ceot of its value against the dollar since the new year. Trading was quiet yesterday ahead of Monday's G7 meeting. Fi-nance ministers arrive in Washington tomorrow in the wake of

the weekend Nato summit. Financial market analysts predict that the euro will remain weak until economic fundamentals on the Continent show signs of improvement.

said: The Americans might put on some pressure, but the currency is just a reflection of eco-

nomic conditions." Slow growth in Europe compared to faster US growth would keep the euro weak for a few months, be said. The Balkan war also weighs on the euro, analysts said. However, the suspicion in the

US is that Europe is deliberately practising towards its new currency the policy of benign neglect that has served the dollar and US exporters so well. The issue has become sensitive because of the Asian Philippe d'Arvisenet, chief crisis and subsequent explosion

economist at BNP in Paris, of the US trade deficit. Protect manufacturing output in the producers is rampant.

> New figures for the UK economy yesterday confirmed that growth remained sluggish in the first quarter of this year. However, the 0.1 per cent rise in GDP in January to March, to a level 0.7 per cent higher than a year earlier, is widely expected to mark the low point of

the business cycle. According to preliminary figures from the Office for National Statistics, manufacturing output fell during the quarter, but more slowly than in the final quarter of 1998. The figures for

tionist sentiment among US first quarter are likely to show a fall of around half the fourth quarter's 1.3 per cent decline.

But if the worst is over for manufacturing, growth in services slowed to its lowest since the trough of the recession in mid-1992. Services output rose 0.4 per cent in the first quarter, taking the year-on-year growth down to 2.3 per cent from 2.7 per

cent in the fourth quarter. Since mid-1992, services output has climbed by 26.7 per cent, compared to a rise of about 8 per cent for manufac-

Outlook, page 19



MAM talks to Greycoat team

THE MANAGEMENT of Greycoat is in talks with Mercury Asset Management (MAM) about a possible buyout of the central London property devel-

MAM, which has a stake in Greycoat's most famous property Tower 42 in the City (formerly known as the Nat West Tower), is expected to make a bid that will see the management retained and offered a share in the equity.

> A source close to the deal said: "Although a number of people were prepared to offer management participation, they [Greycoat] are now on the point of doing a deal with a particular institution. The structure of the

deal means that management will have participation in the eq-

Greycoat put itself up for sale last week following a hostile £218m bid by Delancey Estates, the property group run by Jamie Rithlat, son of British Land's John Ritblat. The financier George Soros controls nearly 60 per cent of Delancey. Delancey's all-paper bid was

rejected as "derisory" by Greycoat. Analysts say it is looking for a bid of up to £300m for the company, which last week reported a net asset value of 283p per share. The sale process is being arranged by NM Rothschild, with tenders invited by 19

Peter Thornton, the chief executive of Greycoat, said: "It became clear very early on that certain parties going to tender wanted the possibility of retaining some nr all of management. Of course we'd prefer someone to retain management and save our jobs, but the highest cash bid will win the day." Analysts and industry nb-

servers said that the deal with MAM, reported in property magazine Estates Gazette, seemed logical and beneficial to both sides.

Ian Henderson, chief executive of Land Securities, one of the companies tipped to enter

the bidding, said: "It doesn't surprise me because a number of funds are looking for more direct exposure to property. It's got quite a lot of logic to it."

A property director with a leading life fund said the deal reflected a structural change in property investment in the UK, with fund management bouses increasingly looking to absorb property companies into their

"We've seen it with Hermes taking over Argent and more recently with Pricoa and Arlington, and there'll be more companies seeking to sell themselves to life assurers. It means the listed property sector will shrink," be said.

MediaOne bid shakes phones sector

THE UK telecoms industry was braced for a further huge shakeup yesterday with both the mo-bile operator One2One and the cable company Telewest set to be put up for sale if AT&T's surprise \$58bn bid for MediaOne

A takeover would trigger the disposal of both the 50 per cent stake in One2One held by MediaOne and the controlling 51 per cent stake in Telewest that AT&T would emerge with.

Speculation that both Telewest and One2One would be sold was fuelled by AT&T's announcement that it planned \$18bn-\$20bn of asset disposals once the takeover goes through. A spokeswoman said: "We will be divesting non-strategic assets and clearly the main motivation for buying MediaOne was to expand our footprint in the US."

assets would be sold off but both the One2One and Telewest stakes are regarded as nonstrategic. In addition to this, regulatory considerations and AT&T's existing joint venture agreements would force disposals of the two businesses.

AT&T has already forged a \$10bn global alliance with BT which includes a non-compete clause. Since both Telewest, one of the UK's three main cable operators, and One2One are competitors to BT and its mobile joint venture Cellnet, this makes disposals inevitable.

Telewest shares soared 8 per cent yesterday, rising 20.5p to 282.5p as the market sensed that the company was now in

BY MICHAEL HARRISON **Business Editor**

play and likely to merge or be taken over. Other telecom stocks rose in its slipstream with Cable & Wireless, which owns the other half of One2One, gaining 27p to 842p.

Telewest, which is valued at £5.6bn, is already 21 per centowned by AT&T through its earlier acquisition of TCL If the MediaOne bid succeeds it will inherit a further 29.9 per cent of Telewest Normally companies are forced to make a full bid once their shareholding in another company rises above 30 per cent. It was unclear last night whether this would force AT&T to make a hid. But analysts soeculated that a more likely scenario was a three-way merger between Telewest and the two Cable & Wireless Communica

tions and NTT. To complicate matters further, CWC is in discussions with Telewest about an asset swap whereby Telewest would take over CWC's residential customers, paying CWC in shares, and CWC would take on

Telewest's business customers.

The AT&T bid for MediaOne tops an agreed \$48bn offer from the US cable giant Comcast. That deal had already prompted Cable & Wireless and MediaOne to announce the disposal of One2One, either through a trade sale or flotation which could raise anywhere between £6bn and £9bn.

Outlook, page 19

Barclays' chairman leaves | Allied Carpets MD quits door open to a merger

climbed almost 3 per cent yesterday after its chairman indicated the group was open to a merger with a rival.

Speaking at a tense annual meeting, Andrew Burdon, the outgoing chairman, said: "If something arose that was consistent with Barclays' own group strategy and good for shareholder value, of course we would consider it." However, he declined to comment directly on recent speculation about a tieup between Barclays and Royal Bank of Scotland.

Barclays' shares rose 540 to close at 1,933p, with traders also

Shares in Barclays Bank By LEA PATERSON

cheered by a bullish statement. "Our business has performed well in the first quarter," Mr Buxton told shareholders. Despite the upbeat tone of the

statement, the Barclays chairman faced some hostile questioning. There was particular concern about the size of the compensation package paid to Martin Taylor, who unexpectedly resigned as Barclays' chief executive at the end of last year. Mr Buxton took the unusual

step of asking Peter Jarvis, chairman of Barclays' remuneration committee, to give

shareholders a short presentation explaining Mr Taylor's payout. Mr Jarvis said the package reflected "contractual obliga-

business under Martin". Separate remarks by Peter Ellwood, chief executive of Lloyds TSB, fanned merger speculation in the sector.

Mr Ellwood, speaking at The Economist's UK Financial Services conference, said: "Obviously we would like to buy in the UK, but a really big deal would go against competition rules. Europe is on our doorstep and we are looking pretty hard. We are also looking in the US."

ALLIED CARPETS, the strug- BY NIGEL COPE gling carpet retailer, lurched Associate City Editor further into crisis yesterday when its managing director tions as well as the success of the resigned following another grim trading statement.

Ray Nethercott is stepping down with immediate effect after surviving a management purge last year, when auditors found a black bole in the accounts caused by problems in the way sales were recorded.

Shares in Allied Carpets fell 3p to 36.5p. Analysts said it was left "rudderless" with just two executive directors, including an acting finance director. Allied Carpets' chairman,

Julian Lee, said be and non-executive director Mark Burgess would now spend more time at the company supporting the re-Mr Lee said: "Ray's resig-

after grim trading figures

nation brings the opportunity for a fresh start for the company and we will announce a sucsor as soon as practicable." Mr Nethercott is likely to eligible for compensation.

Allied Carpets said trading remained "challenging". In 16 weeks to 16 April like for like sales were 6 per cent down on Alchemy.

the period last year This is thought to be in line with the carpet market but a poorer performance than rival Carpetright.

The latest crisis at Allied Carpets could revive bid speculation after the group ended takeover talks last year. However, there may be few bidders.

Carpetright, which made an indicative offer of 67p per share before pulling out due to regulatory concerns, is not thought interested. The company feels it was messed about by Allied over the deal to buy 29 of its stores. The other bidder last year was venture capital group

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

LONDON

SHARES closed slightly higher yesterday as takeover rumours in the banking and telecom sectors

offset Wall Street's weak opening. The FTSE-100 finished 14.4 higher at 6428.0, on low volume of less than a 1bn shares. A number of market players preferred to sit on the sidelines after Thursday's large gain. Profit-taking took the FTSE-250 7.8 lower to close at 5784.5. The Small Cap ended 13.9 higher at 2522.2, breaking its trading and closing records for Market Report. page 19

NEW YORK SHARES fell slightly nn profit-

taking after the DJIA and Nasdaq hit new highs on Thursday. AT&T fell nearly 10 per cent on warries about the impact of the potential acquisitinn nf MediaOue. In early trading the Dow was down 46.39 at 10,680.79 while the hitech Nasdaq was nff 3.97 at 1.337,64. Mobil fell almost 2 per cent after a fall in first quarter earnings to 58 cents a share. Exxon, its prospective merger partner, was down 1.6 per cent.

TOKYO

THE NIKKEI INDEX closed 1.54 per cent higher at 16,923, boosted by gains in hi-tech issues following a jump in the technology-beavy Nasdaq index in the US overnight.

Speculation that the Japanese government may announce extra economic steps to kick-start the economy also helped market sentiment traders said. "The whole market was pulled up

as the fate of Tokyo high-techs is closely tied to overall market performance," said Akihiro Naemura, a strategist at Okasan Securities.

HONG KONG STOCKS HAD a volatile day's

trading, ending modestly lower after earlier hitting their highest level in 18 months. The Hang Seng index peaked in mnrning trade at 13,364.42 - its highest level since October 1997 - before falling back to close down 28.24 points at

HSBC Holdings was among the most actively-trade stocks, setting a new record high of HK\$290 before falling back to close at \$283.

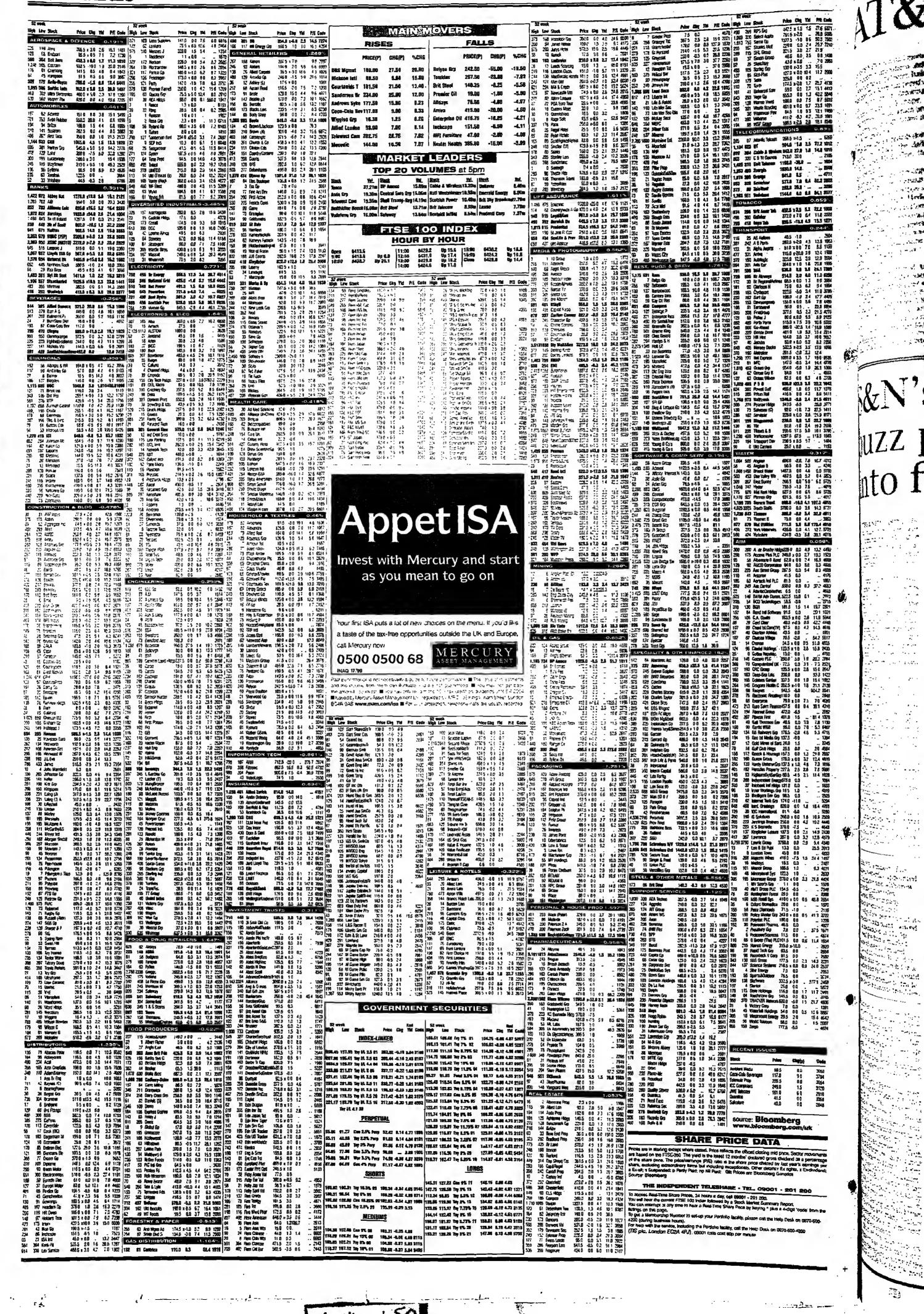
FRANKFURT

BLUE CHIPS surrendered ground in later trade on a weak opening on Wall Street, with the Xetra DAX index ending down 0.74 per cent at 5,187.89 points. The floor-traded DAX finished off 0.45 per cent at 5,195.42 points.

Deutsche Bank shares rose 2 per cent after forecasting a marked earnings increase at its investment banking division as the EU cleared its merger with Banker's Trust. Deutsche Telekom ended 0.2 per cent higher following days of befty losses.

Malta (lira)

ni oli



المكدا من الأعل

AT&T might untangle the cable knot

مكذا من الاحل

THERE'S NEVER a dull moment in the telecommunications industry. No sooner have Telecom Italia and Deustche Telekom lumbered up the aisle intent on redrawing the telecoms map of Europe, than along comes a deal which promises to carve up a significant part of the UK market too.

This time the elephants doing the dancing are AT&T, the daddy of them all, and MediaOne, the US cable operator.

Such is the frenzy of merger activity in the US as the various players jockey for pole position in the information age, that MediaOne was already betrothed to Comcast. Now freed from the constraints of yesteryear, AT&T is desperate to recreate the empire that was broken up when the local phone companies, the Baby Bells, were forcibly spun off.

It has already acquired America's second largest cable operator. TCL Snapping up MediaOne would make AT&T a major player in both the local and long-distance US telephone markets. There are, of course, a few loose ends to tie up. First, it needs to arrange \$30bn of debt financing. Even for a company like AT&T that is a big hite, fol-



OUTLOOK

lowing so soon after the \$60bn TCI deal. Then it needs regulatory approval

And then, finally, there is the matter of the two transatlantic orphans that AT&T will inherit as part of the deal - a 50 per cent stake in One2One, and a controlling 51 per cent stake in Telewest. Both fit the category of non-strategic assets. Furthermore, both have to be disposed of anyway because of the noncompete agreement that AT&T has with BT - something, incidentally. which the regulators might care to cast an eye over while they are at it.

One2One was already on the hlock following the decision by Cable & Wireless, the owner of the

but not Wireless. As for Telewest, the incestuous nature of the UK cable industry and the desperate need of the various players to make a viable whole out of the loss-makng parts, means it was never likely to remain in its present form.

The welter of overlapping cross shareholdings make the UK cable market a tricky one to keep up with. C&W also owns a 53 per cent stake in Cable & Wireless Communications, itself the product of a four-way merger. Comcast (remember that one) meanwhile owns a stake in NTL, the other player of any size on the UK cable scene.

A consolidation of the three hig cable players into one ought not to make the regulators lose any sleep since they do not compete with one another anyway. What's more, it would make everyone else's life easier. The AT&T hid may just be the catalyst the industry needs.

Euro weakling

HOISTED BY their own petard. When the euro was launched, European finance ministers insisted on reversing the old convention under which the D-Mark and the franc were quoted in terms of the amount of each currency a dollar would buy, and instead bave the euro denominated the other way round - in terms of the number of dollars each euro bought.

The difference might seem an unimportant one, but for the pompously minded men of Europe, it has (or rather had) a certain symbolic significance. Quoted against the dollar in this way, the euro is worth more than one, and therefore might be seen to denote superiority. Furthermore, because the euro

was expected rapidly to establish reserve currency status, and strengthen against the dollar, this method of quotation would more easily illustrate rising value and therefore increased superiority. Embarrassingly, it hasn't worked out that way. The euro bas been sinking ever since it was launched. The way things are going, it won't be long before parity is reached. Sacre bleu!

However, as luck would have it, a weak euro is just what the doctor might have ordered for near recessionary Europe. The euro's weakness may be a tad embarrassing for supporters of the new currency, but while it makes Europe's exports cheaper and imports more expensive, nobody's complaining too much.

Nobody, that is, except the Amer icans, and to a lesser extent, Britain, also labouring under the burden of a strong currency and growing trade deficit. The US plans to give it to the Europeans with both barrels at next week's meeting of the IMF and World Bank in Washington. The US, with its Everest of a trade deficit, seems to be shouldering the entire burden of the world's economic ills right now, or that's what its policy makers think,

anyway, and it wants Europe to take

some share of the strain.

Unfortunately, it is hard to see bow this can occur, there seem to be no policy tools left open to the Europeans. Interest rates have already been cut to a lower level than anyone dreamed possible, while with most euro-zone countries beginning to knock up against budget deficit ceilings, there isn't a great deal of scope for tax cutting either. Deregulation of labour, capital and industrial markets will eventually help stimulate demand, but the benefit of these measures are

going to take many years to come through. For all these reasons, the euro is likely to remain a weak currency for some while yet.

Narrow miss

THE BRITISH economy expanded by less in the first quarter of this year than any other quarter since the tail-end of the last recession. Yet yesterday's figures were greeted with remarkable cheer. The reason is one of relief; the vast majority of economists think the slowdown in January to March is as bad as it is going to get. We have, they think, achieved the proverbial soft landing.

Better still, the figures indicated that the pace of decline in manufacturing has eased. Unlike other areas of the economy, manufacturers have indeed suffered a recession - technically defined as two successive quarters of falling output - but they now appear to be pulling out of it despite the strong pound. Services output grew even more slowly in the first quarter than in the final months of 1998. But economists draw comfort

dence that services are now picking up again.

This evidence ranges from the informal the reappearance in London's restaurant and shop windows of help-wanted notices, to the more formal - pick-ups in confidence in the biggest business surveys. The housing market has certainly perked up, as net lending and

bouse price figures show. The biggest remaining worry is bow much the strong exchange rate could yet damage exports. It is still just about possible that this could still tip the whole economy into recession. Furthermore, revisions of preliminary data are frequent and large and it might be unwise to put too much faith in yesterday's

But even assuming the worst, it is hard to see the UK economy suffering more than two or three quarters of marginally negative growth.
Compared to the scale of boom and bust Britain experienced in the 1980s and early 1990s, this is quite an achievement on the part of policy-makers. It even feels a little bit too good to be true - as if to declare a soft landing is tempting fate. The formal declaration will have to wait

S&N's holiday buzz puts fizz into flat FTSE

SCOTTISH & NEWCASTLE, the nation's higgest brewer, was back in demand yesterday after a series of meetings with analysts sparked talk of a sell-off of its Center Parcs holiday busi-

S&N surged 29p to 761.5p as the finance director. Derek Lilkinson, toured the City's croking houses to outline the company's near-term strategy and to rein in some of the more optimistic earnings forecasts. Mr Wilkinson is thought to have hinted at some "developments" at Center Parcs, S&N's underperforming hobday camps operation.

The business, which owns Pontin's in the UK and has operations in Holland, France and Belgium, suffered a slump in reservations a few years back as tourists were put off by its staid image. Since then, it has undergone massive restyling and it appeared to be on the up.

However, recent trading is believed to have been poor and Mr Wilkinson was said to have mentioned Center Parcs' disappointing performance as a reason to reduce full-year forecasts. The finance director's caution fuelled speculation that S&N was lining up a sale of the ousmess, which last year produced about £60m in profits on

SEAL ICE, a maker of ice cubes, yesterday appointed a liquidator and withdrew from the junior Ofex market. The company, which produced up to 3,000kg of ice per hour at its Peterborongh plant, bowed nut unchanged at 112.5p. Seal Ice had a market

vaine of over £1.6m and sales of £390,000. It said in March that its search for a hacker had failed and could no longer continue to trade due to its financial troubles.

turnover of over £300m. Many experts believe Center Parcs does not fit with S&N's brewing operations but could be a target for a package holiday operator wishing to boost its European presence. A change of management could be in

The Center Parcs saga overshadowed Mr Wilkinson's other mission: to tell brokers to reduce their forecasts. He is thought to have warned analysts of tough trading conditions in the beer market. The comments had an immediate effect; WestI B Panmure slashed their 1999 forecast by £10m to £409m. Last year S&N posted £422m.

The FTSE 100 had an off day, rising just 14.4 points to 6,428.0p on low turnover of 929 million. A weak opening on Wall Street did not help and many dealers preferred to book in some profits for the weekend.

Most of the blue chip excitement was in the cable sector as the repercussions of the AT&T bostile bid for US rival



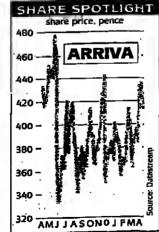
FRANCESCO GUERRERA

MediaOne spread through the London market. Telewest Communications, where Merose 20.75p to 282.75p - the

biggest riser among blue-chips. If AT&T succeeds in buying MediaOne it will end up with a 51 per cent bolding in Telewest, which will almost certainly be sold to fund the deal and allay regulatory fears. The UK market leader, Cable & Wireless Communications, already in talks with Telewest on the pooling of their domestic operations, is a potential buyer. CWC rose 22p to 713p on hopes it could go for a £16bn merger.

Cable & Wireless was also wanted, rising 27p to 842p. Traders shrugged aside fears that the AT&T bid could scupper the sale of the mobile phone husiness One2One, co-owned with MediaOne, and focused on speculation that it could merge with France Telecom. Colt Telecom missed out on

the fun, plunging 36p to 1,102p on profit taking. Reed International suffered the same fate and closed 17p down at 522p. Bid talk returned to swirl around Barclays. The leader-



less bank rose 54p to 1,933p after the outgoing chairman, Andrew Buxton, said that it was open to merger talks. Royal Bank of Scotland, its most likely partner, was unruffled, closing 1p up at 1,411p.

British Energy powered 17.5p ahead to 550.5p amid talk of a £400m share huyback. The company could be spurred to return the cash after failing to buy one of the power stations put up for sale by PowerGen.

Asda and Kingfisher survived - almost unscathed news of a Stock Exchange probe into share dealings before the announcement of their

merger. The supermarket slid 1.5p to 191.5p, while the owner of B&Q was 12.5p higher at 822p. The rumour of a strike by Wal-Mart for Safeway grew stronger as it emerged that Tony Blair had met with an executive of the US giant. The UK group closed 14.25p up at 279p. The mid-cap was in indeci-

sive mode, ending 7.8 points lower at 5,784.5. The small cap bucked the trend and finished ahead, closing 13.9 higher at 2,532.2 and breaking its 1999 trading and closing records in the process.

Arriva, the transport group, was one of the worst-perform-20p lower to 415p after warning of a tough bus market.

Takeover rumours enlivened the rest of the undercard. United Assurance, the underperforming life insurer, rose 17.5p to 446.5p on talk of a strike from a rival or a major bank, possibly Lloyds. Hickson, a long-suffering chemical group, was also in demand. It closed &p higher at 58.5p as old bid talks resurfaced. The activist fund manager PDFM owns a large stake and could be looking for a buver.

Another company in the PDFM stable, Cornwell Parker, rose on talk that a bid was near. The reclining chair maker,

SHARES IN Arsenal Football Cinb soared 10,000p to 210,000p yesterday after the Ofex-traded company announced a new three-year sponsorship deal with the

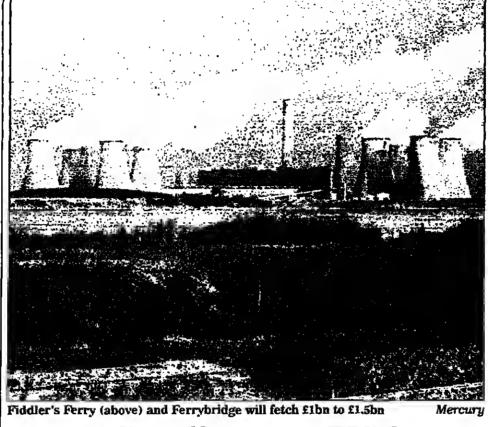
computer group Sega. The contract allows Sega to publicise Dreamcast, its new video games console, on the Gunners' home and away shirts from next season. The deal, worth about £12m, is thought to be the largest-ever sponsorship for a UK football club.

known to have received an approach, rose 13.5p to 112p. The Coke bottler. Coca-Cnla Beverages, fizzed 9p higher to 117p on evidence of a buovant market for the sticky stuff. Storehouse, the BbS and Mothercare retailer, flew 70 higher to 146p as speculative buyers moved in.

Profit warnings were the order of the day among the minnows. The convenience store operator, Dawn Til Dusk, sunk 21.5p lower to 75p after announcing the closure of its "Liquorzones" shops and pre-dicting profits "significantly below" expectations. The mattress maker Relyon

Gronp sunk 55p to 242.5p after blaming the poor furniture market for a sbortfall in profits. The textile group Dawson International unravelled 2.5p lower to 18p after talking of a tough trading environment.

SEAQ VOLUME: 929m SEAQ TRADES: 76,343 GILTS INDEX: n/a



PowerGen lines up US buyer

POWERGEN is poised to announce the £1bn-plus sale of two of its coal-fired power stations to a US electricity company. The UK generator has decided to sell the two stations Ferrybridge and Fiddler's Ferry - to a single bidder in order to maximise the price.

The two stations will he sold to either NRG or Edison Mission Energy, both of the US, and an announcement is expected

BY MICHAEL HARRISON **Business Editor**

to be made early next week. There had been speculation that the two stations would be sold separately. But PowerGen is understood to have persuaded the Government that in order to create a powerful new competitor in the UK electricity market, it is preferable to have just one buyer.

Edison Mission Energy already owns the pumped storage power stations that were formerly part of National Grid. which may tip the balance in favour of NRG.

The two stabons, which each bave an output of 4,000 megawatts, are expected to fetch between £1bn and £1.5bn, which will include the coal supplies they are already contracted to buy.

SKB strikes Avandia deal after approval

SMITHKLINE BEECHAM yesterday said it had struck a deal with US competitor Bristol-Myers Squibb to co-promote Avandia, the blockbuster diabetes drug given approval by US authorities this week.

On Wednesday SKB was given the green light to sell the drug by the US Food and Drug Administration's advisory panel, giving it access to the multi-bil-lion dollar market for diabetes treatments. The FDA ruled the drug was

liver damage, giving SKB a crucial marketing edge over some type 2 diabetes treatments. Yesterday a fierce battle for market share was in prospect

free of any links to unusual

when the FDA said Actos, a rival to Avandia produced by Eli Lilly and Takeda Chemical, was also not linked to liver damage. Type 2 diabetes, a condition caused by the inability of the

body to respond to natural insulin, affects around 100 million people across the world and 16 million in the US, most of them in the older age brackets. Type 2 diabetes is the leading

cause of adult blindness and kidney failure in the US. The conditions and its complications cause around 500 deaths a day in the US alone.

The new drugs help to reduce

BY ANDREW VERITY

insulin resistance and allow the body to control its own bloodsugar level. SKB has completed more than 20 clinical trials involving 500-plus patients. Rezulin, the rival drug de-

veloped by Warner Lambert, is expected to realise sales of \$750m (£465m) in spite of being linked to serious liver damage. The FDA allows the drug to be prescribed, but only alongside other treatments. Avandia can be used on its own.

Analysts expect Avandia and Actos to realise sales of \$3bn between them within four years. Until now there were fears that these might also cause liver problems.

SKB's collaboration with Bristol-Myers Squibb will give Avandia an extra marketing push. Bristol-Myers is currently the market leader in diabetes treatments through its

Glucophage product.

Howard Pien, president of SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals, said: "Given the extensive experience of Bristol-Myers Squibb in bringing Glucophage to patients with type 2 diabetes, [we] understand well the urgent need to provide physicians with additional new therapeutic options."

Wassall promises one-year truce on BICC

WASSALL, the bottletops-to-travel goods maker, yesterday made an official promise not to go hostile for at least a year in its £746m bid for BICC, the engineering group, after pressure from the Takeover Panel

The promise came after a put up or shut up" order from the panel concerned about the potential for the bid to disrupt

BY ANDREW VERITY

BICC's business. On Tuesday the panel said Wassall must either go hostile or cease making informal takeover offers for the group by 1pm yesterday.

The group has in the past five months said it is willing to make informal offers of 90p and 110p for BICC. On Thursday, less

terday the bid was formally re-

jected by BICC.

The requirement comes put-up-or-shut-up type of provi-sion. There is obviously a phoney war which has been going on for some time, which leads to un-

it raised the figure to 125p. Yes-pany," said a panel spokesman.

The panel's immediate concern stemmed from the forthcoming 4 May extraordinary under rule 35 [of the takeover meeting being held by BICC to code] and it is true to say it is a approve the £275m sale of its energy cables business. Wassall wants to buy all of BICC.

Wassall indicated it believed it still had a bope of winning

than a day before the deadline, certainties for the offeree com- shareholders' favour. But it is now barred from making further informal offers. Alan Jones, chief executive of BICC, said: "This stops them stalking us and it means the issue now is whether we should complete the transactions on the table."

Shares in BICC rose from 107.5p to 108.5p, while shares in Wassall fell 9p to 249.5p.

IN BRIEF

World Telecom to provide Tesco card

WORLD TELECOM vesterday tried to offset disappointing results with the news that it has been chosen to provide supermarket chain Tesco with a hranded pre-paid phonecard. Pre-tax losses at the Aim-listed telecoms provider came in at £9.28m, against analysts' forecasts of £7.3m. Analysts said the company was hit by low-margin products taking a larger share of overall sales. Its pre-paid phone cards - 19 per cent up - were hit by competition from BT's Payphone Access Charge, launched in late 1997. The shares closed flat at 58p.

Record losses for Japanese brokers

THREE OF Japan's biggest securities houses yesterday posted record losses for the last financial year. Nomura Securities, the country's largest brokerage, reported a consolidated net loss - calculated under stringent US accounting standards - of 466.9bn yen (£2.4hn). Daiwa Securities, the number two house, and Nikko Securities, the number three, announced group net losses of 127.9bn yen and 177.5bn yen respectively. Both Nomura and Daiwa reported healthy profits on their domestic businesses

Sainsbury's plans new division

SAINSBURY'S is to set up a new commercial division to turn the business around, the group said yesterday. The division will incorporate 80 to 85 staff from the Savacentre head office in Wokingham, Berkshire, which is to close with the loss of up to 230 johs. Five new senior positions have been created to run the new division. This is the first phase of a full reorganisation of the trading divisions of Sainsbury's supermarkets. The new teams will be effective from 3 May and the full structure will be in place in four months' time.

COMPANY RESULTS

Mame	Turnover (1)	Pro-tant (f)	EFS	Districted at	Pay day	N-270
Breat International (F) Dominion Energy (I) Oscenstarrough Holdings (F) World Telecom (F) (F) - Final (I) - Interim	126 447m (133 998m) 0.082m (0 143m) 42.18m (36 57m) 27.24m (9.03m) * Before Exceptionals	-9 281m (9 283m) -0 067m (-0 083m) -0 500m (3.595m) -9 39m (-2.66m)	-18 Sp (8.Sp) -0.14p (-0.18p) -0 SSp (2.58p) -38 Tp (14.1p)	- (-) ni (-) 0 45p (0 4p) - (-)	17.05.99 01.07.95	04 06 99 24 06 99

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Due to the change in Base Rate from over Base Rate remains constant. 550% to 525%, your RBS Advanta Condition 5 of your RBS Advanta Card interest rate for Purchases and . Card Conditions of Use is varied accordingly. If you have any questions accordingly from the first day of next about this change, please call our Customer Service Centre on:

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And yet, when you step back and shut the door behind you, what other thoughts crowd in? If he comes for the milk hill tomorrow. we're talking about a post-dated cheque. What would have happened if Cole hadn't followed up? Lightbulbs and cat litter. Lightbulbs, cat litter, and find chequebook. Surely the referee would bave given Yorke a penalty?

Being bumbled by the cosmos is like staring into the sun - not something you can spend too much time on. Instead, the mind veers away to



ROWBOTTOM

other concerns. Which is where the real problems begin.

If I could concentrate my mental resources on useful projects. such as remembering where I put the car keys, remembering not to leave the newspapers by the froot fled young man who looks like

them, and, oh yes, remembering a 1950s American quiz show. I idenwhere I left my chequebook - if I could master even these small accomplishments, my life would be

Even better if I could store useful information in my head. How many stopcocks are there in the house, and where are they? Which fuses correspond to which lights? What is my current tax coding? Where, exactly is the garden fork? Did we lend it to anybody, and if so on what basis?

That advertisement with the challenging questions in thick black type which crops up on the front of newspapers - do you forget names, people, faces? - actually, I don't recall the details - well, it rings a bell. That accompanying picture of a baf-

tify with him. A psychologist writes: This problem occurs because the subject does not wish to take on adult responsibilities and engage with adult patterns of behaviour.

The subject responds: Not true. I don't take any pleasure in being inefficient. It simply wastes my time and prevents me doing other things which are more enjoyable. And even those things are adversely affected.

I have often thought it would be nice to remember poetry - even accepting the obvious risks of becoming one of those people who remembers poetry. To be able to call upon an apt quote when the occasion requires would be... well... 1 over breakfast, or late at night would like, when the occasion

I once spent several hours trying to commit to memory a poem by Louis MacNiece, The Sunlight on the Garden, because, basically, I liked it. A colleague of mine with a particularly well-stocked mind spent several... pints, actually... trying to coach me in my task.

And, for a while, it worked. I had consciously enriched my mental store. I had added something of real value. But the words slipped away like... well... they slipped away.

Yet some things do lodge in the space between my ears. They fall into two broad categories.

The first is pop tunes and lyrics. Especially - and perversely - those I have heard my children singing when they should be asleep. These

door because the cat pisses on someone stumped for an answer on requires, to be able to call upon an songs are usually associated with strutting youths with body piercing - or an unnaturally mature 15year-old thrusting her pelvis at the television cameras.

The second, thank God, is sport. I may not be able to remember poetry, but I can recall certain sporting moments with the utmost clarity, and I can recall the emotion

Frank Lampard Snr, who hardly ever scored, jigging around a corner flag after scoring for West Ham in the 1980 FA Cup semi-final against Everton.

Peter Elliott actually winning the title his talent merited at the 1990 Commonwealth Games in Auckland, accelerating away from the Kenyans with a broadening grin. Arthur Ashe concentrating his

willpower at the side of Wimbledon's Centre Court before finishing off the new brat on the block, Jimmy Con-

Life is full of mysteries. But these are the kind I find myself dwelling on. Why didn't every England footballer at the last World Cup practice penalties as a matter of course? Why did West Ham sign Tain Dowie? Even more puzzlingly, why did they buy him back after they'd sold him? (I've read Harry Redknapp's reasons, and I'm still not convinced.) Why does David Ginola wear a vest? What does Dennis Wise do for an encore?

And all this week, there has been another one nagging away at me. What would have happened if Cole hadn't followed up? Would the referee have given Dwight Yorke a

Renaissance of Llanelli's treble-chasers

The Scarlets have put their financial difficulties behind them and are on course to bring trophies and crowds back to Stradey Park. By Chris Hewett

Old Trafford, both literally and figuratively: Manchester United attract more supporters for a single game than Llanelli pull in over the course of a dozen, and David Beckham's weekly wage packet would keep the entire Scarlets squad fed and watered for the best part of a month. Still, parallels exist between the two: both wear red both usual-sympathetic intervention and the ly play their home matches in a constant downpour and both have cornered the market in sporting romance. Ob yes, one other thing. Both are chasing a treble that would mean the world to them.

Admittedly, Alex Ferguson would think long and hard before swapping one of his garden gnomes for the Welsb Rugby Union Challenge Trophy the Welsh Premiership and what is, for the time being, still referred to as the Swalec Cup (Swalec are pulling the plug in frustration at the political overkill on the far side of the Severn Bridge). But for those of us who have been reared on tales of Scarlet derring-do - of Carwyn and Deime, and Benny and Grav, and the legendary 1972 win over the All Blacks - Llanelli's sudden reemergence as a power in the land is worthy of celebration.

This afternoon, Robbie McBryde's brilliant Parisians of Stade Français team visit Ebbw Vale in a Premiership play-off match of considerable significance, victory would total lish Llaneili, who already have the Challenge Trophy on the Stradey clubhouse shelf, as the odds-on favourites for the title, with a cup final against the neighbouring hot-shots from Swansea still to come. They have lost only twice in 17 games and when Stuart Gallacher, their chief executive, talks about a "transformation" in fortunes, he is by no means

overstating the case. As recently as November 1996 Llanelli were on their knees and Welsh rugby - no, damn it, world rugby - was in serious danger of losing one of its treasures. With professionalism in it's chaotic, good-money-after-bad runaway stage, the Scarlets spent cash they

former All Black stand-off. That naivete cost them their famous old ground, soid to the Union for 11 25 mg and very nearly cost them a whole lot more. The Scarlets were within days of bolting the Stradey gates and calling in the pin-striped receivers.

Largely as a result of the WRU's success of a share issue that raised £560,000 from scratch, the club stayed affoat. But the after-shock was almost as damaging as the financial earthquake: in the autumn of 1997, the All Blacks returned to a packed Stradey for a sentimental silver anniversary re-match and scored 13 tries in an 81-3 landslide. The ground has not been full since; when Lianelli took on and beat the

Part of the problem is we have turned people off. The absence of Cardiff and Swansea has made life very difficult.'

in this season's European Cup, only 2,000 or so watched them do it. "We've had a good few more than no

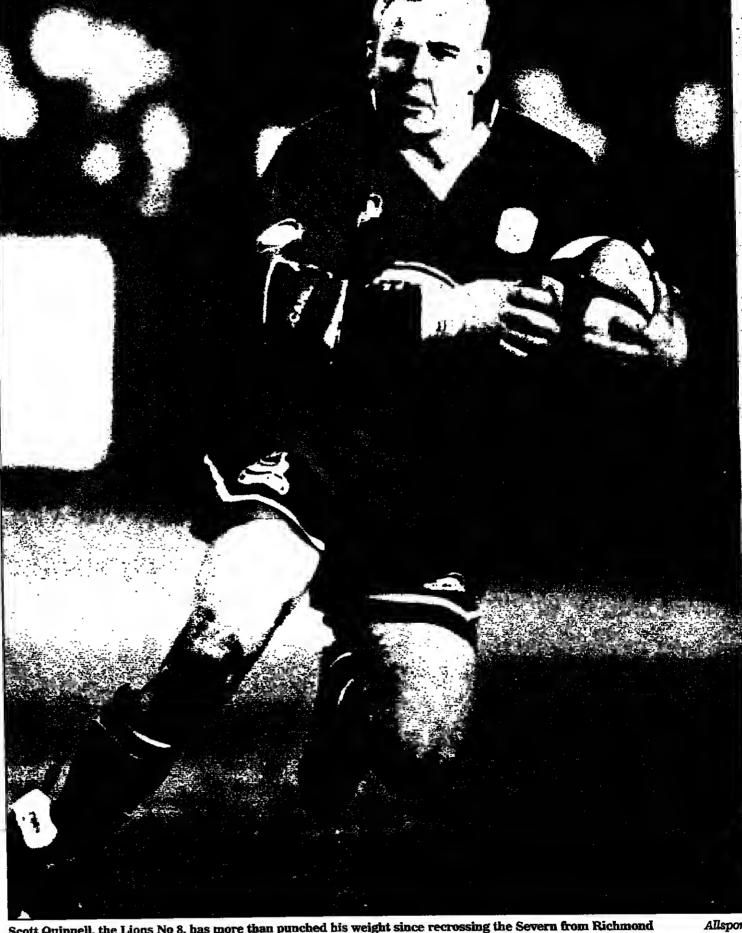
doubt about it, but our gates are still a big negative," admitted Gallacher this week. "We're averaging around 4,000 at the moment, but we need 6,000-plus if we're going to build the business in the right way. Where have the crowds gone? I can't tell you. We still have support in the locality - if you need proof that Llanelli is a rugby town, look at our share issue, where we raised more than half-a-million [pounds], not through a single sugar daddy but through more than 1,000 rank and file Scarlets. But we're not getting them in on a Saturday afternoon, despite our best efforts in selling ourselves to the

"I think part of the problem can

STRADEY PARK is a long way from did not have on players they could be found in the way Welsb rugby as not afford, not least Frano Botica, the a whole has conducted itself in recent years. Let's be bonest, we've turned people off. The absence of Cardiff and Swarmen from detectstic (league) competition has made life very difficult and the collapse of the British League negotiations hasn't helped. In addition, our recent success has led to a number of our games being broadcast live on television at 5.30 on a Saturday night. To build an audience, you need stability. People want to know that there will be a big game at Stradey once a fortnight, kick-off 2.30. There is no point talking about revenue streams and all the rest of it when you have a higgledy-piggledy structure like ours.

For all that, Gallacher has stabilised Llanelli's off-field position in his 18 months as chief executive, just as Gareth Jenkins, the outstanding club coach in Wales, bas stabilised performances on the paddock. Last weekend's cup semifinal demolition of the Cardiff rebels a victory almost dripping in schadenfreude - underlined the effectiveness of a recruitment campaign that has brought Scott Quin-nell, the Lions No 8, back to Stradey along with two fellow Welsh internationals, Byron Hayward and John Davies, and Salesi Finau, a ruthlessly physical wing from the South Sea Islands. Quinnell has more than punched his weight since re-crossing the Severn from Richmond; indeed, the Scarlets have harely lost since his return.

Now that Llanelli have been awarded "super club" status by the WRU - the union will pump in £250,000 a year for the next two years in return for a seat on the Stradey board and an input in player devel opment - they intend to strengthen further in an effort to leave their scarlet mark on next season's European Cup. Indeed, tangible success in the richest club tournament in the world would give them an opportunity to repurchase their spiritual bome from their landlords. Llanelli have an option to buy back



Scott Quinnell, the Lions No 8, has more than punched his weight since recrossing the Severn from Richmond

unusually positive light.

"Europe is where we need to standably so, given the way he it. They realised that we couldn't perform," agreed Gallacher. "To do played in the Five Nations. We're carry on offering fixed contracts that

at the original selling price under the so, we will need a more powerful, terms of a deal that shows the gov- more flexible squad and, yes, that erning body, lambasted and means going into the market. But ridiculed from Milford Haven to it also means banging on to what Newport docks for their misman- we have. Chris Wyatt, our second agement of the game in Wales, in an row, is the bottest property in Wales at the moment and under-

trying everything we know to keep him at Stradey.

"One of the key factors in our turning things around has been the understanding of the players, many of whom went through difficult times when the club was really up against

were way out of our range and they continue to realise that we are operating under tight financial constraints. But they've stood by us and made things happen on the pitch. We're all a little bit wiser as a result of what happened. Hopefully, we're now in a position to huild something

Weakened Sale ready to rebuff the champions elect

IT WOULD not be entirely accurate BY CHRIS HEWEIT to describe Sale's relationship with Leicester in Ali-Frazier terms; after all, the Manchester club are no one's idea of a true heavyweight. Still, the two sides have spent much of the last three years punching seven bells out of each other and nutual respect is fairly thin on the ground. Sale love to cast Leicester in the "big ugly bear" mould, while the Midlanders have long held the view that their rivals are too lippy for their

own good. Hence the heightened interest in this afternoon's 15-rounder at Heywood Road, where the Tigers have a chance of wrapping up the Allied Dunhar Premiership title three

weeks early. "Relationships haven't been brilliant between ourselves and Leicester," admitted Sale's director of rugby, Adrian Hadley, yesterday. "The 1997 league match up here was an acrimonious affair there was trouble on the pitch and the referee had a rough time off it after awarding them a late penalty try that took them into Europe at our expense. Things have moved on, though. It will be a decent game this time, hopefully."

So keen was Hadley to exercise some water-under-the-bridge diplomacy that he went on to praise Leicester as "worthy champions", ig-

victory at Bedford today would allow Tim Rodber's side to contest the issue for another week at least. "You have to admire their strong squad and consistency of performance," he said. "Leicester away is the toughest game of the season and Leices-

ter at home is the second toughest." They tend to be particularly tough when your own side is in tatters. Sale have endured a horrible few weeks. bidding a fractious farewell to their coach, John Mitchell, and seeing a number of leading players, including their international wings David Rees and Steve Hanley, pick up season-threatening injuries. Their financial situation is so desperate

noring the fact that a Northampton that they have placed their most in mortal combat, eighth-placed recent England cap, Barrie-Jon Mather on the transfer list What price a Sale victory under those unpropitious circumstances?

"We aren't frightened of them," insisted Hadley, "even though our own season has been pretty disappointing brilliant one week, rubbish the next." Brave words indeed hut, just to make matters worse for the underdogs, their experienced scrum-half, Kevin Ellis, is a doubtful starter. Leicester, on the other hand, give their own first-choice halfback, Austin Healey, a first Premiership start since February.

Down in mid-table, where a fistful of European contenders are locked

Newcastle will fancy their chances of closing in on a top-six position by beating the travel-sick whipping boys of Gloucester at Kingston Park. Va'aiga Tuigamala and Peter Walton are likely absentees from the Falcons' line-up, while Gloucester go in without their injured Samoan centre, Terry Fanolua, who is replaced by the Premiership debutant Mike Davies. Their midfield problems may be eased next week, however: Cliff Mytton, a 30-year-old Aucklander whose performances for Stade Français have earned him all sorts of accolades on the far side of the Channel, is being linked with a move to Kingsbolm.

colleagues back bome in New of their own. The Auckland Blues, the most successful Super 12 outfit in the history of the southern hemisphere competition, intend to foster a close working relationship with Worcester. the ambitious Premiership Two club coached by Les Cusworth. In addition, the All Blacks intend to use Worcester's state-of-the-art training facilities

during this autumn's World Cup. Meanwhile, the International Rugby Board admitted five new national unions - Cameroon, Colombia, India, Peru and the Pacific island of Niue - to the rugby fraternity during their annual meeting in Buenos Aires.

By coincidence, Mytton's former More significantly, they sounded the death knell for old-style rugby élitism Zealand have forged an English link by guaranteeing a number of lessfashionable unions regular Test activity against the traditional powers of the 15-man game. Argentina, Canada, Fiji, Italy, Japan, Romania, Tonga, the United States and Western Samoa will all benefit from a new fixture schedule drawn up by Bernard Lapasset, the French chairman of the

IRB tours committee. In addition, board members agreed to ban pain-killing injections both directly before and during matches. Vernon Pugh, the IRB chairman, will head a new antidoping committee, to be put in place before the World Cup kicks off.

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Faldo folds to increase Ryder fears

NICK FALDO had already packed his bags and admitted yet another defeat when lightning halted the Peugeot Spanish Open in mid-afternoon in Barcelona yesterday.

A dismal second-round 76 ~ one of the worst scores of the day on an El Prat course yielding birdies and eagles galore resigned Faldo to a sixth missed cut in 10 starts this season. There were no excuses from the former world No 1. whose slump has taken him down to 99th in the current rankings and put him in danger of missing out on the Ryder Cup for the first time in his 23-year professional career.

"It's me," sighed Faldo after coming in on the two-over-par mark of 146 and looking up to see the Scotsman Paul Lawrie and Sweden's Jarmo Sandelin sharing the lead 14 strokes ahead of him. "I played badly and putted badly. Do you need to know any more? I've a bit of work to do - I've got to get the stroke right."

Two early three-putts undid the good of an opening 70, but putting could not be blamed for the two double-bogeys that followed. First he hit a drive under one tree; then he lost a ball in

Faldo plays next at the Benson and Hedges International at The Oxfordshire in three weeks, by which time be will have gone more than 26 months since his last solo success. His last European victory was five years ago.

His 1999 tale of woe began

By MARK GARROD

with missed cuts in South Africa and Dubai, a first-round druhhing from Tiger Woods at the Anderseo Consulting world matchplay championship in California, then two more missed cuts in Florida. The 41year-old actually led the Players' Championship after nine holes last month but shot a third-round 83 and was disqualified in the final round after losing another ball in a tree and taking a wrong penalty drop underneath it.

Worse was to come, though. He hegan the Masters with an 80 two weeks ago and missed the cut for the third successive year. Now this, a day on which playing partner Seve Ballesteros outscored him by seven. Ballesteros bas gone five

years without a win anywhere. is outside the world's top 450 and had missed his first six halfway cuts this season. But his 69, containing four hirdies and a 15-foot eagle putt, lifted him to two under, and be had to wait to see if that was good enough to give him his first weekend work for nearly six months

Meanwhile, Lawrie and Sandelin both repeated their opening rounds of 66 and on 12 under led Kent's Jamie Spence by one with half the field still to finish following the one-hour hold-up. The Masters champion, Jose Maria Olazabal, and

ster Sergio Garcia were among them. With seven to play, Olazabal was one under and battling to stay alive, while with six to go Garcia, in his debut as a professional, was still five under He had three more birdies but also a triple-bogey seven on the eighth after losing a ball in a

tree like Faldo. Lawrie, the 30-year-old from Aberdeen, has already won the Qatar Masters this season, and the £100,000 first prize on Sunday could take him sixth in the Ryder Cup table. He had no fewer than nine hirdles, the best of them when he came within four inches of a hole-in-one at the 180-yard 17th, "I think this course suits me," he said. "There are a lot of shots of 120 yards and in, and that's the strongest part of my game."

Big-hitting Sandelin is currently 13th in the cup race - five places ahead of Lawrie - and his 66 began with four straight birdies while Spence, seeking his first victory since a closing 60 gave him the 1992 European Masters, led by one with three to play, but in a strengthening wind bogeyed the 16th and 18th.

SPANISH OPEN Early second round leaders: 132 J Sandelin (Swe) 65 66, P Lwerle 66 66: 133 J Spence 65 66: 138 P McGintey 67 68: 136 P Eales 69 67, A Salto (Spl) 73 63. E Canonica (II) 72 64, M Jorzon (Swe) 67 69, G Evans 72 64; 137 M Roe 73 64: 138 V Phillips 69 9, R Winchester 71 67, 0 Borrego (Sp) 68 70, S Luna (Sp) 71 67, T Levet (Fr) 69 69, P O'Malley (Aus) 71 67, 0 Smyth 74 64: 139 A Beal 71 68, I Garbutt 72 67, C Rocca (II) 69 70, S Hartsen (Den) 71 68, P Price 70 69, P Harrington 71 68; 140 R Narisson (Swe) 70 70, M Jimenes (Sp) 72 68, P Fulke (Swe) 70 70, S Neldson (Den) 69 71. W Bennett 70 70, Other selected scores: 142 S Ballesteros (Sp): 144 P Sjoland (Swe), S Torrance: 146 N Faldo.



Nick Faldo waits to putt out on the ginth green on his way to missing the cut at the Spanish Open in Barcelona yesterday

Money boost for middle men Sudden death for bantams

GRAND PRIX circuit details were announced yesterday by the International Amateur Athletic Federation with the designated men's events heavily favouring the middle distance

rouj, from Morocco, looks favourite to repeat his success with the 800 metres, 1500 and Golden League events. 3,000 all counting for points this season.

The women's champion, the American sprinter, Marion Jones, however, will be hardthe 100, 400 and long jump are 11 grands prix II meetings.

ATHLETICS

all missing from the women's

BY KIERAN DALEY

events which count this time. El Guerrouj and Jones, along Last year'a overall grand with the Ethiopian distance prix winner, Hicham El Guer- runner, Haile Gebrselassie, shared a \$1m (£600,000) jackpot last season for winning all their

In total there will be \$3,38m available in prize money for the grand prix circuit. The figure, unchanged from last season, covers the seven-meeting Goldpressed to retain her crown as en League, 10 grands prix and

The final will be held in Munich on 11 September where individual event winners will each earn \$50,000. The overall grands prix winners will receive \$200,000.

This year's designated grand prix men's events are the on Thursday in Monte Carlo. 200m, 800m, 1500m, 3,000m, 3,000m steeplechase. 110m burdles, long jump, pole vault, javelin, For women, the designated events are: 200m. 800m 1500m, 3,000m, 400m hurdles,

high jump, triple jump, shot put. The doping hearing of Sri Lanka's leading female sprintbeen adjourned until July ac-

cording to track and field's world governing body. The 24-year-old sprinter, who faces a two-year ban after testing positive for the steroid nandrolone in a random doping test last year, appeared at the IAAF doping panel

Giorgio Reineri, an IAAF spokesman, said Jayasinghe presented new evidence at the hearing, forcing the threemember doping panel to adjourn the case to a date in July.

Javasinghe, who won a silver medal in the 200m at the 1997 world championships in er Susanthika Jayasinghe has Athens, tested positive for nandrolone-19 in April 1998.

AS THE leading lights in British judo gather in Birmingham for the British Opeo Championships this weekend it seems that at last the sport is emerg-

ing from a confused decade. Despite occasional successes in international competition, there was no hiding the lack of ceotral direction amidst falling membership of the British Judo Association and poor results.

Under the chairmanship of first woman to hold the post and still the only national woman chairman in world) the BJA has regrouped and now

presents a more creditable

BY PHILLIP NICKSAN

The imaginative, though risky appointment of Udo Quell- has been agreed for this year for there is everything to fight for malz, the German Olympic the national squads and similar as only one will be going. featherweight champion, in sums for the next six years overall charge of the national squads, appears to he paying off, with regular medals in A internationals since January Lesley-Anne Alexander - the and from a wide range of competitors. With quiet assurance

and professionalism he has

planning not just for the Sydney Olympics, but also Athens.

champion Karina Bryant and

Worcestershire v Surrey

WORCESTERSHIRE - First Innings 15-1

Cambridge University v Essex

Umpires: G I Surgess and N A Mailende

with Sarrey (Sots)

No Play Yesterday.

Other Match

WORD AND THE TOUR

WORCESTER (Day 4 of 4): Worcestershire (8pts) dre

SURREY - First Indings 223 (B C Hollicake 55. Liptrot 5-

FENNER'S (Day 3 of 3): Carabridge University draw wit

ESSEX — First lanlags 340-3 dec. (Robinson 111, Grayson

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY - First Innings Overnight

tS J W Lewis si Rollins b Such 8 0 1 95 82

I Mohammed c Powell b Cowan32 0 4 87 97

*Q J Hughes c Peters & Grayson14 0 1 56 72

R H Halsall c trani b Grayson....... 0 0 0 1 1

C R Pimiott not our4 0 0 22 19

Bowling: A P Cowan 14-7-17-2. J O Grove 17-3-63-1, P M

Such 18-9-21-1, R C Irani 6-3-13-0, A P Grayson 13-4-33-3.

PPP HEALTHCARE County Championship (Day 4

of 4) Southampton: Hampshire v Kent; Hove: Sussex v Northamptonshire: Headingley: Yorkshire v

CGU NCL - Division Two (1 Day) Taunton: Somerset Sabres v Durham Dynamos (13.30)

Fall: 1-43, 2-55, 3-95, 4-97, 5-97, 6-160, 7-181,

Today's fixtures (11.00 unless stated)

7ntal (for 7, 75 overs)

To Bac: M J Birks, S M Sheikh.

Umpires: M R Benson and G Sharp.

J E Bishop 7-1-33-0.

He is helped by financial se-

curity. Alexander's bid for proper

funding for a sport where Britain

has been met positively by the

pete today in what is a warmup for the European Championships - both are pre-selected. has traditionally been strong. For the three leading bantamweights in the men's divi-Sports Councils and the Lottery sion, John Buchanan, Sam Sports Funds. A total of £1.4m Dunkley and Jamie Johnson,

Lightweight Danny Kingston seem likely, allowing steady will compete at 81kilos, rather than his normal 73kg tomorrow, to save the main dieting effort This weekend most of the for the Europeans; and there leading fighters are compet- could be the loog-awaited ing. World heavyweight junior match between featherweights Georgina Singleton and Debbie Allan if the latter's Achilles tendon beals in time.

New structure benefits fans

AS IF the drama and tension of the occasion was not enough, Terrell Myers' last second shot which won the Budweiser League championship for Sbeffield Sharks two weeks ago against Manchester Giants now has added significance.

The Sharks will be the last team to win England's premier basketball competition ending a line of champions which began in 1973 with Avenue and whose roll call includes Embassy All Stars, Crystal Palace, Doncaster, Solent, Portsmouth and Kingston.

"It's a nice touch to think we'll be the last champions," said the Sharks general manager, Yuri Matischen, "but it's purely incidental in this restructuring of the game."

Next season the Budweiser League will be contested in north and south conferences, with the play-offs deciding the championship instead of a fabricated end of season jamboree.

Thursday in England's Cham-

pions Trophy squad for Bris-

bane, has been dropped from the

Southgate squad to play Can-

nock, the English champions, in

BASKETBALL

BY RICHARD TAYLOR

general manager, who was in the front office of the Houston Rockets when they won the NBA title in 1994, put forward his plans for the competition last year. He has since worked with Matischen and the league's Rob Webb and Tim Rudge in devising the new structure.

don't want to be."

Goldberg said: "It's a bold

and exciting development. People are often asked wby we bothered going through playoffs when we've spent the previous eight months beating the bell out of each other. Now the play-off winner will he the undisputed champion."

play-offs were just an add-on and made no sense. We don't have to stick with a league structure, we're not soccer and

ference and seven in the oorth

will play twice home and sway against conference members. Jay Goldberg, Manchester's and once home and away against teams from the other conference. A proposed play-off structure, yet to be agreed, will re-

ward each conference champion by giving them a bye to the finals. The third and fourth team in each conference would play off for the right to meet the two secondplaced teams, with the winners joining the conference champions in the finals. Fans will benefit from an in-

reased number of local games. The League chairman, Kevin Routledge, said: "Fans want to follow their team to away games Matischen agreed: "The hut are prevented by long travelling distances and evening tipoffs. This move will put more games within their reach."

Southgate lose patience with Giles

In a further move, next season the quarter-finals of the oational cup will move to single venue events played over one day or a weekend, maximising large capacity arenas and guaranteeing television

coverage. Next weekend sees the last play-offs under the present format al the Wembley Arena, hetween Sheffield, Manchester. Thames Valley Tigers and Lon-

Next season's southern conference will include Brighton. Greater London, London, Thames Valley, Milton Keynes and Birmingham. The northern conference will be made up of Leicester, Derby, Sheffield, Manchester Chester Newcastle and Edinburgh.

Martin Ford has been promoted to bead coach at Derby Storm after being assistant to Bob Donewald, whose cootract was not renewed for the new season which begins in Sep-

Cricket dropped from the **Games**

CRICKET CRICKET IS to be excluded from the 2002 Commonwealth Games, despite its success in

Kuala Lumpur last year. The Commonwealth Games Federation yesterday approved the list of 14 individual and three team sports to be included in the Games. Table tennis and triathloo are new events and the popularity of rugby union sevens in Kuala Lumpur means it is retained.

The other team sports will be

nethall and men's and women's

Cricket sparked much interest in Malaysia, despite continual changes to the schedule due to rain, with Australia eventually winning gold.

The West Indies Cricket Board must answer to the International Cricket Council following the pitch invasion at the end of Wednesday's oneday match with Australia in Georgetown, Guyana.

"I suspect it was more exuberance than intimidation but it is still not acceptable in modern cricket,' said the ICC chief executive, David Richards. "I shall be speaking to our referee as a matter of urgency. I'm looking forward to reading his end-oftour report, and we will take further action then."

The all-rounder Alan Dawson will replace the fast bowler Makhaya Ntini in South Africa's World Cup squad, following Ntini's conviction yesterday for rape.

Ntini convicted, Foreign news, page 14

won the respect of the players former world lightweight champion Nicola Fairbrother comand the administration. CRICKET SCOREBOARD

PPP Healthcare County Championship Hampshire v Kent

SOUTHAMPTON (Day 3 of 4]: Rent are trailing Hamps by 234 runs with 7 first-limings wickets in hand

Sent wer toss HAMPSHIRE - First Innings 252 (Kendali 93, McCaque

KENT — First Innings Overnight 18-3

Umpires: R Julian and M J Kitchen No Play Yesterday

Sussex v Northamptonshire

MOVE (Day 3 of 4): Sussex are trailing Northampton shire by 312 roos with 3 first-innings wickets in base ಎರಡಿ ಎಂದು ರಂತ**ಕ**

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE — First linnings 391-8 dec. (Hay den 119, Warren 88, Ripley 50no) SUSSEX — First fanings Overnight 79-7 (Makolm 4-27) Umpires: V A Holder and T E Jesty.

Yorkshire v Gloucestershire

HEADINGLEY (Day 3 of 4): Yorkshire are leading Gloucestershire by 184 runs with 7 second-innings wickers in hand

Gloupestersile um, tame FORKSHIRE - First Innings 282 (Hamilton 81no. Smith GLOUCESTERSHIRE — First landings 149 (Hamilton 4-26)

YORKSHIRE — Second landings Overalght 14-0 Second landings Contri

rom, M J Hoggard,

Bowling: A M Smith 9-4-20-0, J Lewis 13-6-21-3, I J Harvey
6-2-13-0, M W Alleyne 2-0-13-0,

Umpires: O J Constant and B Leadbeater.

Derbyshire u Glamorgan

DERBY (Day 4 of 4): Derbyshire (4pts) draw with Glam organ (5pts) Clandroan wer 1999 DERBYSHIRE — First Innings 168-4 Umplres: A G T Whitehead and N T Piews.

eicestershire v Nottinghamshire

LEICESTER (Day 4 of 4): Leicestershire (6pts) drew with Nottinghamshire (4pts)

ভিত্তনাত্রতার পর্যা হস্ত NOTINGHAMSHIRE — First Inplogs 117-5 Umpires: J C Balderstone and J W Lloyds. No Play Yesterday.

Middlesex v Lancashire

LORD'S (Day 4 of 4): Middlesex (AptS) drew with Lau-cashire (AptS)

CGU NCL - Division One (1 Day) Chelmsford: Essex Eagles v Lancashire Lightning: Southampton: Hamp-shire Hawks v Kent Spitfiles: Edgbaston: Warwick-Shire Bears v Worcestershire Royals: Headingley: Vorkshire Phoenix v Gloucestershire Gladiators.

CGU NCL — Division Two (1 Day) Lord's: Middlesex Crusaders v Glamorgan Bragons: The Foster's Oval: Surrey Lions v Northamptonshire Steelbacks:

Tomorrow's fixtures (13,30 unless states)

Hore: Sussex Sharks v Derbyshire Scorpions.

tomorrow's EH Cup semi-final at the Morris Ground. Southgate's coach, Neil Hawgood, has spent the whole season trying to convert Giles into an all-round field player now that he is no longer allowed to be substituted on to take penalty corners. Finally his

patience has snapped. Another Southgate casualty is the Welsh international, Andrew Grimes, in a game which

BY BILL COLWILL

is their last chance to achieve something out of the season. Teenagers John Grice and Jon Peckett come into the squad. Cannock will be missing

their England centre-half Justin Pidcock who was injured at Reading last weekend and also Martin Jones who will be captaining Repton in the final of the RAF Careers Youth Under-18 Cup final. Pidcock came out of hospital on Thursday after a successful operation on his injured knee.

Reading, after their two outstanding performances in the Premiership play-offs last weekend, will start favourites to

Leicester.

win the second semi-final away to Old Loughtonians. In today's women's EH Cup semi-finals at Milton Keynes a depleted Slough side will play Chelmsford Highway while

Olton Terraquest face Fyffes

Slough will be without their influential Irish international Sarah Kelleher in their midfield and defender Ali Burd, who popped up last weekend to them through to the League man to predict the winner.

Championship final against Clifton Scottish Life. There is also considerable doubt about captain Sue Chandler who missed last week's game. Cbelmsford, who have al-

ready achieved promotion into the Premier Division, will be at full strength. Leicester's recent amo form will give them a lot or confi-

dence along with the return of the England striker Purdy Miller who will be available for her first full game of the season after returning from injury. With Olton's blend of youth and score both their goals which put experience it would be a hrave

hitbread Ha

go to Bars

To les. forms

Mahler revival to stun Bobbyjo

SO THIS, suddenly, is lt. No BY GREG WOOD more first-fence fallers, no more cursing as your jockey goes out the side exit, and no more wondering what might have been but for that bad blunder two out. Or not for another six months, at any rate, because the Whitbread Gold Cup effectively marks the end of the 1998-99 National Hunt season. All that diehard followers of the winter code can do between now and October is book early for the Cheltenham Festival, and perhaps plan a trip to Galway or Punchestown

But the jumpers do at least have a fine race with which to take their leave. It is just two weeks since Bobbyjo bounded cheerfully around Aintree to become the first Irish-trained Nabonal winner in a generation, but be is back in Britain for the Whithread, and sure to start favourite this afternoon. The 18 horses lined up against him include Baronet, last year's Scottish National winner, Boss Dovie, who was one of Ireland's best povices last year and Betty's Boy, who woo a valuable chase at the Festival.

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Bobbyjo (Sandown 3.30) NB: Silver Robin (Leicester S.05)

One absentee, though, will be Paul Carberry. who rode Bobbyjo at Aintree. A recent injury while riding work for Noel Meade has ruled Carberry out, and his place will be taken by Adrian Maguire, who rode last year's Whithread winner, Call It A Day, "I sat on Bobbyjo this morning," Maguire said yesterday. "and be feels fine."

sercise there must be some doubt about whether Bohbyjo Frankie Dettori, the "people's will run up to his hest so soon champion" on the Flat (Keiren after the National It is true that Fallon, presumably, was not he might not need to, since he interested). ran off an 11lb bigher mark at Liverpool, and also worth noting that he ran twice within a fortnight last season, and did rather better in the second race than the first. Nothing exhausts a horse quite like the National, however, and this race, Bobbyjo's seventh of the season, could be one too many. In the circumstances, the quote of

3-1 is easily resisted. And there are doubts too

faster ground, and Boss Doyle has yet to recapture last year's form, which could leave the way clear for an outsider. The one who catches the eye is MAH-LER (nap 3.30). Mahler would probably pre-

fer a softer surface, but otherwise be is a very solld 12-1 chance, now that a back problem which troubled him earlier this year seems to have been cured. On the pick of his form last year - his win in the £100.000 Heineken Gold Cup at Punchestown - he is very well bandicapped, and his stayingon sixth over an inadequate trip at Aintree last time hinted at a return to his best.

There are just five runners in the preceding novice chase, yet it is much harder to find a worthwbile bet. Andsnephi (2.50) may be a little more reliable than Dines, who woo last time out despite almost refusing to start and losing 20 lengths in the process, but it is the Flat events which offer more of interest. Many punters will not look

beyond Glamis in the Thresher Classic Trial, given that John Gosden wins the race with monotonous regularity: and this Derby prospect bas already won well this season. A value alternative, though, could be Dehoush (next best, 4.10), who won the Easter Stakes at Kempton despite finding trouble in running. The Brigadier Gerard Stakes, meanwhile, could fall to Secret Saver (4.45), who would prefer an extra couple of furlongs but might just find this stiff 10 furlongs an adequate test.

One contest which you will not be able to bet on is the Tote Challenge at 1.15, a match While he might feel fine at which pits Tony McCoy. the champion over jumps, against

> They will ride O'Garney Park and Omar's Odyssey, both of them very ordinary horses from Philip Mitchell's yard and chosen for their equal (lack of) ability. The winner can hardly claim to be the best rider in Britain, but he will at least receive £5,000, to be donated to the charity of his choice.

■ Robert Thornton is to part company with David Nicholson. Last year's champion condiabout several of his opponents. though has turned freelance Baronet's jumping is often very after four years with the Jackshaky, Betty's Boy would like daws Castle trainer.

Orpen leads O'Brien team

O'Brien's leading candidate for quote of 25-1 for the Derby. the 2,000 Guineas with a pleasing piece of work yesterday Ballet Master the 4-9 favourite. and was cut to 6-1 (from 8-1) by William Hill for next Satur- half furlongs out and just got day's Classic. O'Brien, winner tired," he said, of the 2,000 a year ago with King Of Kings, may also run Stravinsky and Lavery depending on Richard Quinn. The filly's trainthe state of the ground and confirmed that Sunspangled will carry his hopes in the 1,000 Guineas the following day.

We'll leave it until later in the week to decide about Stravinsky and Lavery. But both must have good or faster Way Of Light attempts to ground," O'Brien said. Stravinsky has been withdrawn from claims in the Group Three Prix the Tetrarch Stakes at the Cur- de Fontainebleau over a mile at ragh tomorrow and should he Longchamp tomorrow. Last miss Newmarket he may take in the French 2,000. Michael Kinane will be on Orpen and Sunspangled in the Classics.

shortcomings of another Guin- and Le Roi Chic. Montjeu, eneas aspirant were exposed as tered for the Derby at the sec-Ballet Master finished fourth in ond entry stage, runs in the the opening race to Little Rock. Group Two Prix Greffulhe. Ballet Master began the day as Peter Chapple-Hyam's World a 12-1 sbot for the Guineas but Alert, second to Bahamian has now been withdrawn from betting on the Classic.

Kieren Fallon, his rider, began most to fear from Frankie Detto show signs of anxiety. His tori's ride, Strawberry Fields. mount found little response, leaving Little Rock, trained by a 7.30am inspection. Sonnet hy two and a balf and Wolverhampton cards, p24

ORPEN BECAME Aidan lengths. The winner received a Cecil refused to write off "He was cantering one and a The favourite for the 1,000,

Moiava, will now be ridden by er, Criquette Head, was forced to look elsewhere for a rider for Moiava after her stable jockey, Olivier Doleuze, incurred a riding ban. "Instead of a top-class French rider we will have a topclass British rider," Head said. boost his French 2.000 Guineas season's French champion juvenile is opposed by the André Fabre-trained trio, Grazalema, Pinkaral and Indian Danehill. At Sandown yesterday the plus Iridanos, Prince Powhatan

Bandit at the Craven Meeting, tackles the Italian 2,000 Guin-The chestnut travelled eas- eas in Rome tomorrow. Jimmy ily until a furlong out where Fortune's mount may bave

Ripon's card today hinges on Michael Stoute, to beat Grand Vesterday's results & Ripon



MARKET RASEN

HYPERION 2.10 Flora Dreambird 2.40 Dragons Bay 3.10 Fair And Fancy 3.45 Keen To The Last 4.20 Patraa 4.55 Brambleberry 5.30 Waterberg 6.00

GOIN G: Soft (Good to Soft in back straight).

Poght-hand, snarp, undulating circuit Run-in of one futiong.

Course is E of fown on AS31. Market Rasen station (Linculn Gransby line) Im. ADMISSION: Cub Etit; Tattersalls 210 (OAP members of course's Jubice Club hall price). Silver Ring ES (Jubideo Club OAPs hall price). Accompanied under tis free all emolosures. Concessions for students. CAR PARK: poinc areas 33 per vehicle plus SS Saver Ring entry for each occupant i remainder free.

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS LEADING TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveloy 26-112 (222%) M Pipe 22-95 (232%) Mrs S Smith 15-15 (13%) Miss H Knight 12-46 (30%) ■ LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 30-78 (385°s). N William 19-83 (220°s) L Wyer 15-87 (184%), P Niven 15-96 (16.7°s).

FAVOURITES: 227-645 (352%) TONGUE STRAP: Leap in The Oark (310), Claverhouse #55). Monaughty Man (4.55). Brilliancy (5.30). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None.

2.10 HEALTH SCHEME SELLING H'CAP HURDLE (G) £2,000 added 2m 1f110yds 2:00 LORD DISCORD (71) J Madre 5 12 0 . . . Mr S Stronge (7) 95:255 ROUND ROBIN (19) Mrs A E Johnson 5 11 1 J R Kewsnagh B 43-75 BRIGITAL OPTION (19) Mrs N Macadey 5 10 11 Mr R Forrisas (5) V 244360 HELENES HILL (19) J L Harrs 4 13 5 . R Thornton

Maximum weight: 10st. True handscap weights, Freches 9st 12th, Fiorz Dream-BETTING: 11-4 Round Robin, 7-2 Freckles, 9-2 Digital Option, 5-1 Helenes Hill, 13-2 Lord Discord, 8-1 Mill Orchid, 12-1 Flora Dreambind

FORM VERDICT er in which nothing makes much appeal. This fifty is proven in er at written nothing makes much appeal. This hifty is proven in today's conditions and is fairly weighted, though a mulish dis-play last time is a definite negative. Freckles is much respected against her, but does have a question-mark against her sta-mina in this ground.

SEDGEFIELD

HYPERION

5.40 Polo Venture 6.10 Pentlanda Flyer 6.40

Knight Templar 7.10 Mister Trick 7.40 Jokars

Left-hand, undulating course. Easy fences and long run-in

Left-hand, undutating course. Easy fences and long run-in on chase course of 500yds.

Course is in SE of town near junction of A689 and A777. Bus service from Stockton station (Am) or Durham station (12m), ADMISSION: Paddock C9 (OAPS E3); Course E3 CAR PARK: free FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

LEADING TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley 62-253 (34.5%), B Elfi-mon 18-121 (14.9%), J Howard Johnson 18-161 (11.2%), Leading Jockeys: P Niven 42-171 (24.8%), G Lee 21-99 (21.2%), L Wyer 18-109 (14.7%), A Dobbin 18-156 (15.9%)

FAVOURITES: 227-607 (37.7%),
TONGUE STRAP: Coolsyell (5.40), Pentiands Flyer (6.10), Excise Man (6.10), Peacemater (6.40), Major Hage (7.40), Helm Wind (8.0), Forever Grey (8.10).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Mr Fludge (6.10), Maezoom (7.40), The Other Half (7.40), Helm Wind (8.10).

5.40 ALPHAMERIC CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICE HURDLE (E) £3,000 2m 1f

NOVICE HURDLE (E) £3,000 2m 11

2020 ACCYSTAN (23) M Hommered 4 11 1 L Suthern
8P1 THE GAMBOLLER (15) (CD) M Sowersby 4 11 1.C Refler (S)
0-3008 ATLANTIC POWER (114) W Stores 6 10 R McGrath
43-P DAVEMPORT SALVER (19) P Beaumont 5 11 0 L Cooper (3)
0-43-4 JOLLY MENSTER (15) Mrs. M Reveloy 5 11 0 L Cooper (3)
0-43-4 JOLLY MENSTER (15) Mrs. M Reveloy 5 11 0 M Hampfaton
10 PROFIT (19) W Tinning 5 11 0 M Hampfaton
11 PROFIT (19) W Tinning 5 11 0 M Hampfaton
12 DESUD TEME VALLEY (S) (637) Mrs. A Sambark 5 11 0 W Downler
13 DESUD TEME VALLEY (S) (637) Mrs. A Sambark 5 11 0 W Downler
14 DeSUD TEME VALLEY (S) (637) Mrs. A Sambark 5 11 0 W Downler
15 DESUD TEME VALLEY (S) (637) Mrs. D (50) H Bastiman
16 DESUD TEME VALLEY (S) (637) M Hampfaton
17 DESUD TEME VALLEY (S) (637) M Hampfaton
18 DESUD TEME VALLEY (S) (637) M Hampfaton
19 DESUD TEME VALLEY (S) (637) M Hampfaton
10 HAPPY GALE (518) N Meson B (10) 9 M Homodss

POLO VENTURE should take care of a mediocre bunch after a series of good efforts at the lavel. Jolly Minster is nothing special but could be worth a second look

6.10 TREVOR ALDERSON'S 50TH H'CAP CHASE (D) £6,000 added 2m 5f

21R1-R CORSTON JOKER (147) (D) L Lungo 9 12 C. R Supple

- 9 declared -- 9 declared
- 9

FORM VERDICT

Corston Joker is the class act in the field if he jumps off after a long break, but those who prefer a guaranteed run for their money will probably lean towards the Buss of Weaver George, Pentlands Flyer and Charley Lambert. PENTLANDS FLYER may not have things all his own way up front, but he looks taitly treated and is worth a second look in a widely hardisen.

6.40 WASHINGTON HOSPITAL NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,250 added 3m 3f

- 121P1 KNIGHT TEMPLAR (19) (D) P Nicholis 6 11 2... .. R Thombon

- 9 deciling -BETTING: 1-2 Knight Templar, 8-1 Peacomoker, 7-1 Young Tomo, 10-1 Kinga Lane, 14-1 Rubon Prince, 33-1 others

Charm 8.10 Ellerbeck

2.40 UK HYGIENE NOVICE H'CAP CHASE (CLASS E) 25,000 added 2m 11 110yda MAKEN PORNIC (FR) (191 (D) (BF) M Harmond \$ 2.0 S Harding BLTIZ DRAGONS BAY (19) (CD) (BF) Maken Feeder, 10 m 2 Mr A Dempany 2

Mr. A Dempsoy & F.C.S.; MISS PENNYHILL (19) = 545 6 Tl 3 0 A McLaughtin (7) B JUSSEL VIKING RIDD (19) W WASSET TO 1 JUSSEL VIKING RIDD (19) W WASSET TO 1 JUSSE BLOTOFT (7) S GORGE T TO 2 SET36 DOWN THE YARD (19) (CD) M CHRESTOF TO 2 W W Worthington A 5 Smah B G Lee 7 P4652 JRLIS JOY (15) A Steeper 5 TO A 5 Smich 9
9 195544 EL CORDORES (18) An J Eud-ey 5 C C Rafter (7)
9 18525 TRIONA'S NIDPE (15) E CAR + 17 3 C C Rafter (7)
10 18524 CORMISTON BOYO (185) (8F) 7 And 9 TO S Wynne V
11 P46P4 TUDOR FALCON (49) (CD) 2 P36269 6 TO Gary Lyons P4652 JRLLS JOY (15) 4 Streets 2 10 3

FORM VERDICT

MISS PENNYHILL may be the angues to another more after Conditions will surface she sharty weighted without bothing on a lenient mark line in-form Dragons Boy has solid credentals against her even if bothing high endury in the weights.

3.10 WIERINGEN ROTARY CLUB H'CAP HURDLE (F) 52.300 added 2m 5f 110yds 06-00F CRAIGARY (1910's 1 Severate 5 of 2010's 11 Supple
14-170 FAIR AND FANCY (FR) (19) Mass 7 All panel 7 5 D Gallagher
15-170 FAIR NO FANCY (FR) (19) Mass 7 All panel 7 5 D Gallagher
15-170 FAIR NO FAIR (18) Mass 2 Section 7 7 5 T Sectar (1)
170 ANGLESEY SEA VIEW (19) Mass 2 Section 7 7 7 P Niven
15-150 PONDERNOT (189) (1 Section 7 7 1 J Best (7)
170 STRAFFAN GOLD (50) (C) Was 11 Februar 5 T 7

Munitum weight 1901. The hardcoag weight Feerless Wonder 9st 1856 BETTING: 4-1 Fair And Fancy, 9-2 Straffan Gold, 5-1 Anglesey See View, 7-4 Craigary, 8-1 Leep in The Dark Happy Medam, 10-1 Pondernot, Kelislio, Bit Of A Dream, 16-1 Fearless Won FORM VERDICT

FAIR AND FANCY is the choice on the basis that his report form reads well enough in this company, though nothing makes strong appeal in a race in which good recent form is very from strong appeal in a race in which good recent form is very thin on the ground. Straffan Gold, for whom conditions ought not be a problem funitive quite a tex of these), is much respected against the selection but does have to prove his current well-being.

FORM VERDICT

This is at the mercy of KNIGHT TEMPLAR, who would have much more to do it this were a handicap and showed himself in good shape when winning last time cut. Peacemaker showed enough at Huntingdon in the autumn to be regarded.

7.10 MCEWAN'S DURHAM NATIONAL HANDICAP CHASE (C) £15,000 3m 4f

Minimum weight: 18st. The handlesp weights: Motor Trok 9st 13th, Celic Duke 9st 10th, Cedition 8st 13th, BETTINKS: 7-2 Gale Force, 4-1 Celito Gient, 5-1 Spring Gale, 13-2 Better Times Ahead, 7-1 The Pull Monty, 8-1 Mileter Muddypaws, 10-1 Noyan,

FORM VERDICT

FORM VERDICT
GALE FORCE, who beat Ceitic Dutes in good style at Cartele, may be able to confirm the form on a pound better terms even though the latter is entitled to have come on for that run. Mester Muddypaws is a huge threat on his 4m form but the shorter trip here is not in his tevour. Ceitic Glaint is down in class after his mulsin display on unsuitably softened going in the limsh National and cannot be ruled out. Spring Cale is attractively weighted on his best form but cannot be relied on to exert himself.

7.40 STANLEY RACING NOVICE H'CAP HURDLE (F) £5,000 added 2m 5f 110yds

FORM VERDICT

PUHM VEHUICT

A race that will not take much winning and certainty well within the compass of KALANTE if he reproduces his sixth to All Gong on good ground at Doncaster late in Jaruary. Costletown Court has been change but his hurdes form has worked out well enough for him to have a change despite his big weight. Mir Cavallo has at least won races and should go well, while there is little to choose between Tipping Tina and Maszoom. Gus Chimologischiam has philite har him bracked less than bear.

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as the danger if there is one

3.45 EUROBALE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D)

BETTING: 5-4 Jazzman. 2-1 Keen to The Lest, 4-1 Okumo, 12-1 Ambrosi 14-1 College Don, 16-1 Pertemps FORM VERDICT KEEN TO THE LAST rath well on defeat in his latest run on \$100 ground and won well on generally soft ground the time before that.

4.20 UK HYGIENE FOR SMOKE FILTRATION NOVICE HURDLE (D) £4,500 2m 3f 110yds

— 12 cocared — SETTING: 10-11 Patras, 5-1 Trojan Risk, 13-2 Loose Canson, 7-1 Wood-land Nymph, 10-1 Manutto, 12-1 Gracie Grey, 25-1 Princa Denn, Able Lass, 33-1 others FORM VERDICT

Despite a signi concern about the way he jumped right less time. PATRAS has to be the choice

4.55 SPRING HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) 25,000 added 2m 4f

Minorem wegter 10st. The hermines weights: Morengray Man 9st URs, Joe Jagger St. Tim. BETTING: 11-4 Cool Spot. 7-2 Tom Pinch. 4-1 Danhys Gorse, 5-1 Bram-bleberry, 6-1 Non Vintage, 10-1 Claverhouse, Sister Rossa, 50-1 others

FORM VERDICT Starriera is going to be at a premium in today's conditions and that may hand the advantage to TOM PINCH, who is abrost certainly best at around 3m

5.30 LEVY BOARD STANDARD NH FLAT RACE (H) (DW I) £1,750 1m 5f 110yds

RACE (H) (Div I) £1,750 1m 5f 110yds

SOELR DE SENTIER (20, 2P) 6 Goings 5 118 Mr R Funfatal (S)

JOE CRUMP Mes K Miligan 5 11 4 L Corromat (7)

LEDNIGHT STEPLE N Weggett 5 11 4 L Corromat (7)

LEDNIGHT STEPLE N Weggett 5 11 4 L Corromat (7)

MATZALISMA D Nicholon 5 10 5 L Supple (3)

MATZALISMA D Nicholon 5 10 15 L Supple (3)

R Milianov (19) Mr A E Johnson 4 10 12 L O Milianov (7)

REPLIANOV (19) Mr A E Johnson 4 10 12 L Service (7)

REPLIANOV (19) Mr A E Johnson 4 10 12 L Corromat (7)

COME FOR ALL (25) Mr S Smith 4 10 12 L Service (7)

RED TOWER L Wells 4 10 12 L Mr S Stronge (7)

RED TOWER L Wells 4 10 12 L Mr S Stronge (7)

SETTING: 64 Soeur de Senties, 15-8 Metzelura, 10-1 Brillency, Cutalister Sarvivo, 12-1 French (MIL, 25-1 Joe Crump, Jurist, Dreame Corre True, Recognized Way, Tomocipid, Weiserbarg, 25-1 others

FORM VERDICT Socur de Sentier is best of those who have run, but new-comers Matzalums and WATERBERG look more interesting.

6.00 LEVY BOARD STANDARD NH FLAT RACE (H) (Div II) £1,750 1m 51 110yds

O CAMARI CRUSADER (5) W MCKGOWN 5.11 4. G Lee.
DANCING BUILD T Care 6 14 4. D Eleveroth (7)

I MICHAEL PRINCEGAN (53) Miss 1, Social 6.11 4. T Stefate (5)
OWTHORPE BORDERS J1, Harte 6 11 4. Mr 5 Stronge (7)
VERAC LAD G McCourt 5 11 4. JAN 5 Stronge (7)
VERAC LAD G McCourt 5 11 4. JAN 5 Stronge (7)
VERAC LAD G McCourt 5 11 4. JAN 5 Stronge (7)
VERAC LAD G McCourt 5 11 4. JAN 5 Stronge (7)
VERAC LAD G McCourt 5 11 4. JAN 5 Stronge (7)
UTILE FINTLOCH (54) X Morgan 6 10 12 8tr C R Warener (7)
MRMUSIA Mr J Ban 5 10 13 . R Mossey
WHISTLEWEL LADY A Street 5 10 13 . L Corporant (7)
CHAOGE THEORY Mas M, Revelot 5 10 12 . Mr A Derupadry
O NEWRYMAN (19) G Walty 4 10 12 . Mr A Derupadry
O PEARLY PRINCE (56) G HADRICA 4 10 12 . Mr N Fairly (7)
PELINY D Cospone 4 10 12 . Mr N Fairly (7) - 16 declared BETTING: 5-4 Chaos Theory, 7-1 Pearly Prince, 8-1 Michael Finnegan,
Betting: Secretary Was 20-1 others

FORM VERDICT

PEARLY PRINCE has a far easier task than he did on his Folke-stone debut. Ace Gunner's trainer does well at this level

WORCESTER

5.20 Wurlitzer 5.50 Tree Creeper 6.20 The Carrig Rua 6.50 Balladur 7.20 ive Called Tima 7.50 Pennyahei

GDING: Good to Soft. E Left-hand course, level with long straights, easy turns and a

one furlong run-r.

Course is on the A443 by the River Severn. Worcester (Foregate St) station tm. ADM(SZION: Members £1350; Tattersals: £1050; Course £550 (DAPs £2.75). Accompanied under-15e free. CAR PARK: Free: pronc area parking £3.

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

■ LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 53-189 (31.4%), O Nicholson 29-87 (33.3%), K Bettey 23-67 (26.4%), P Hobbs.19-113 (18.6%), ■ LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 64-2(7 (29.5%), R Durn-■ LEADING JOCKETS: A P McCuby 6+217 (2337), it businesses woody 3: 152 (211%). C Liverellyn 27: 55 (17.4%).
■ FAVOURITES: 258-696 (38.5%).
■ TONGUE STRAP: Durbury Flyer (5.20), Balledur (6.50), Legend OI Love (6.50), Frozen Sea (6.50), Iva Caded Time (7.20).
Welburn Boy (7.50).
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Concubhair (5.30), Bad Bertricht

5.20 KNIGHTS OF CHRISTCHURCH JOUSTING NOVICE HURDLE (E) \$2,900 added 2m /5422 TAIN TON (19) (D) N Tweston-Dawes 7 11 5 Goldstein (3)

FORM VERDICT The ex-irish Concubhair is an interesting sort for Martin Pipe on some very decem bumper form but it WURLITZER can be kept right (and he has gone to a very competent trainer), he should have a race or two of this type in him.

5.50 EVENING NEWS NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) \$4,000 added 2m -U3831 TREE CREEPER (19) (D) A Turnell 7 tl 7 Golds

It would have been rice to see CEDAR SQUARE jump a bit more fluently at Bangor last week but he still looked a good sort and one worth following, especially on a sound surface. If there were to be significent rain, in The Blood would clearly take the heatition as the heat them is units admitted. FORM VERDICT ly take the beating, as his best form is with plenty of cut.

6.50 RON SIMS 25TH ANNIVERSARY H'CAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m OP'SF4 BALLADUR (17) (D) (BF) Mrs J Pilmen B 11 10 B Ferdon

FORM VERDICT

Few with chances, and it is difficult to escape the claims of NOT FOR PARROT, who comes here tresh and in good form. Balladur is not one to rely on, and Legend Of Love may

7.20 MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE NOVICE HUNTER CHASE (H) £1,350 2m 71 110yds

16 -22'S ARDSTOWN (7) (D) R F Krape 8 11 9 Jak F Windsor Citye (7)
16 /54-2 CLUB CARIBBEAN (257) (BP) N Cityer 7 11 9Mr N H Oliver (7)
17 -4554 FOUNTAIN OF FIRE (P19) (D) J Tholph 11 11 9 Jak M Blust (7)
- 17 declared -

BETTING: 7-2 Ardstown, 5-1 Westcountry Lad, 8-1 Nr Mad, 8-1 Beyond The Stors, Ive Called Time, 10-1 Club Caribbean, 12-1 Leteside Lad, FORM VERDICT

The odds will probably be short, but it is difficult to get away from ARDSTOWN, who ran well in better company a week ago and is on the upgrade, the Called Time looks solid eachway, with the ground possibly against a couple of other Re-

7.50 HUGO BEVAN 25 YEARS AT WORCESTER NOVICE H'CAP HURDLE (F) \$2,250 3m

- 16 Gecured -BETTING: 7-2 Sea Tarth, 5-1 Pentyehei, 6-1 Willie 9 Brave, 10-1 Melly Rtz Led, Mancini, 14-1 Harrigale Moss, Indian Legend, Wethom Boy, 15-1 others

FORM VERDICT

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Gus Cunmingham has ability but has looked less than keen. 8.10 STANLEY RACING HANDICAP HURDLE (E) £3,000 addad mares 2m 5f 110yds - B declared -BETTING: 5-4 Tree Creeps, 9-4 Harlequin Chorus, 4-1 Chicodari, 10-1 doch, 16-1 Atours, 33-1 Gentry FORM VERDICT Hartequin Chorus is an interesting returnee to fences but now that TREE CREEPER is on tracks, he is the one to beat. 6.20 RODNEY RICHARDSON CELEBRATION H'CAP CHASE (C) \$8,000 2m 7f 110yds POSP EASTOON GOLD DUST (14) R Baker 8 10 3 __ O Sherddin (5) 9st 6th. Forever Grey 9st 2th. BETTING: 3-1 Wymyard Lady, 7-2 Etterbeck, 4-1 Pontavedra, 7-1 Epo-nine, 8-1 Sousse, 12-1 Leurenhule, 14-1 Helm Wind, 16-1 others FORM VERDICT

Pontawedra has shown she can handle this course and distance and is better than she showed last time but this may be best left to ELLERBECK, who looks the type to improve for the step up in trip now she has had time to strengthen up. Wymyard Lady looks sure to be thereabouts but is best-able.

An open race, PENNYAHEI has been running well enough to show that she can win a race of this description and is pre-terred to Willie 2 Brave and Harrigale Moss. Tite I - -

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Whitbread honours can go to Baronet

PUNTERS' GUIDE

Steve Smith Eccles, former top jump jockey, analyses today's Whitbread Gold Cup



ly to find this race just as gru-elling under top weight.

Senor El Betrutti: Yet to recapture his best form, but will relish the drying ground. My only doubt is whether he will stay the trip.

Boss Doyle: Disappointing last time but a live each way contender if back to his best. Baronet: Lightly raced this season, he goes into this a relatively freab borse. He is prope to the occasional hicrup but will be hard to beat if he puts in a clear round.

Court Melody: This old character loves Sandown and could run well if he puts his best foot forward.

Strath Royal: At the ripe old age of 13, I reckon we have seen the best of this fellow. Nahthen Lad: It would be a fairytale if Jenny Pitman's last Whitbread runner took the glory, but not even Richard Dunwoody can be expected to make that happen. Callisoe Bay: Pulled up on this track in February but could run a big race.

ed trip beyond him. Mahler: Has done nothing to suggest be has a chance.

Jathib: May find this extend-

General Wolfe: Tailed off in Colonel In Chief: Has shown the Grand National and like- no form in two runs this season and has been known to burst blood vessels.

Fine Thyne: Pulled up twice in four outings and well beaten in the other two.

The Outback Way: An unknown quantity over this trip. be could be out of his depth. Bobbyjo: The Grand National winner runs off a feather weight but may find this contrasting track a struggle. Betty's Boy: A convincing Cheltenham Festival winner who has been given time to get over the race and is one for the short-list.

The Last Fling: Not the best of jumpers and one I would not like to be riding.

Eulogy: Well beaten by Betty'a Boy at Cheltenham and hard to see him turning the tables. Major Bell: Each-way prospects if he gets his act together over these stiff fences. Cariboo Gold: Hard to con-

Conclusion: Betty's Boy has been given time to get over his Cheltenham triumph and can run another big race. However, I prefer last year's Scottisb Grand National winner, BAR-ONET. Do not write off the Irisb challenger, Boss Doyle.

SANDOWN

2.50: Course winner Dines is bound to be popular but his stamina is not guaranteed, and both Andsuephi and FANFARON are capable of taking advantage if it fails. Fanfaron looks particularly well treated on his best form.

3.30: Further rain would harm the prospects of fastground contenders Baronet, Bobbyjo and Betty's Boy. MAHLER, in contrast, will appreciate aome cut. Carl Llewellyn's mount reserves his best form for the spring and has reportedly recently received treatment for a back injury which was responsible for a loss of form earlier in the season.

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4.40

4.10: The value could lie with DEHOUSH, who found his stride late in the day at effect, storming through to reappearance. lead close home. He will relish the extra two furlongs bere. Derby entries Adnaan and Glamis both warrant plenty of respect.

4.45: Luca Cumani has startand his ZOMARADAH can take advantage of a weak entry for this Group 3. Generous Rosi finally regained winning ways at Kempton, but be was a 10-11 chance that day and is unproven in this grade. A more potent threat may be the Aidan O'Brien-trained four-yearold Risk Material.

HYPERION'S

TV TIPS

LEICESTER 2.30: A win by Little Rock at

Sandown yesterday gave a boost to the chance of BACKCLOTH, who was a promising eight-length 7th to that colt as a juvenile. Today's race is just a run-ofthe-mill handicap and Backcloth will be in fighting order after another pleasing showing on his reappearance 16 days ago. The pick of his rivals are Red May, who had ber recent form boosted by this week's Beverley winner Nika Nesgoda, and Baisse D'Argent, who stayed well as a juvenile and is stepped up even more in distance after contesting a strong Kempton but did so to some race at Newmarket on his

4.30: GAELIC STORM is too good a horse to dismiss after last Saturday's costly defeat at Thirsk. One of his four handicap wins last year was gained under 10st and ed the season in fine form today's seven furlongs will suit him more than Thirsk's six. Sir Mark Prescott fields a big danger in the talented filly Grazia, who cruised home at Newbury on ber first start last year. Her subsequent defeat in a Group One can be excused and, being a daughter of Sharpo, she has every chance of acting well on this rain softened ground.

10-YEAR-TALE ON THE WHITBREAD 1989 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 P 1 1-2 D 5 5 2 5 2-F P Winner's place in betting: D 1 1| 2| D D D D 3 12-1 9-2 4-1 8-2 10-1 25-1 10-1 12-1 14-1 8-1 Starting-prices: 100 105 103 101 101 100 101 1110 100 1010 Winners' weights: 7 TI 9 B 10 8 9 10 8 B Profit or loss to E1 state: Favourities -£200 Second Favourities -£725 Percentage of winners placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in last race: 70% Shortest-priced winner: Docklands Express (1991) 4-1 Longest-priced winner: Ushers Island (1994) 25-1 Top trainers: K Bailey (2) - Mr Frisk (1990), Docklands Express (1991) O Barons (2) - Topsham Bay (1992 & 1993) Top jockey: Pj Dunwoody (2) - Topshem Bay (1993), Cache Fleur (1995) P pulled up, F tell, I joint ferourite

FIRST SHOW

ND(wi	· 3.	30		SANDOWN 4.45
			_	т	C H L S
					Gamerous Rosi 11-4 9-4 11-4 11-4
<u> 3-1</u>	11-4	114			Zogowadek 3:1 4:1 4:1 4:1
3-1	#1	7-1	_51_	<u>8-1</u>	Phile Material 5-7 4-1 4-7 7-2
10-1	10-1	9-1	9-1	10-1	Secret Sever 5-1 5-1 5-1 9-2
12-1	12-1	11-1	10-1	12-1	Dark Shell (3-2 7-1 6-1 6-4
23-1	9-1	12-1	12-1	91	Exercise World 8-1 10-1 10-1 10-1
	12.1	14-1	12-1	12-1	Prizes Of Deniel 15-1 14-1 11-1 14-1
				14.1	Dynamian 20-1 25-1 30-1 20-1
E-1		_ <u></u> -			Diamond White 40-1 25-1 33-1 33-1
14-1	16-1	14-1			Each-way a With the order, places 1, 2, 3
14-1	14-1	14-1	14-1		
15-1	18-1	16-1	25-1	15-1	
16-1	18-1	£ -1	16-1	B 1	LEICESTER 4.30
25-1	16-1	25-1	20-1	30-1	C H l S
25-1	20-1	25-1	25-1	20-1	Gracia 3-1 10-9 4-1 7-2
	201	26.1	25.1	25-1	AMERICAN ST.
	_		- -	_	Triangle Triangle
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75.5	22.1	23-1	25-1	25-1	Tracs island 6-1 7-1 12-1 6-1
	C 34 81 10-1 12-1 22-1 12-1 12-1 12-1 12-1 12-	C H 3-1 11-4 5-1 6-1 10-1 10-1 12-1	C H L 31 N4 N4 81 81 71 101 101 91 121 121 141 21 221 24 141 161 181 81 181 81 251 201 251 251 201 251 251 201 251 251 201 251 251 201 251	C H L S 3-1 11-4 11-4 5-1 3-1 8-1 7-1 8-1 10-1 10-1 8-1 8-1 10-1 10-1 10-1 10-1 10-1 10-1 10-1 10-1	C H L S T 31 84 14 51 31 81 87 71 81 81 81 101 101 91 91 101 121 121 171 121 124 21 21 141 121 124 21 21 141 121 141 141 151 141 181 151 151 151 151 151 151 151 151 151

Turnblewood R. 14-1 12-1 14-1 14-1 11-1

Cretan Gill 16-1 16-1 16-1 16-1

January Too 12-1 16-1 12-1 16-1 12-1

Wind Cheenah &1 &1 &1 20-1 &1

Enchange a fight the costs, places 1, 2, 3

Major Sel 25-1 23-1 25-1 25-1

Senor B Betrati 33-1 35-1 45-1 25-1 33-1

Strath Royal 40-1 33-1 33-1 33-1 40-1

Each way & quarter fire colon, places 1, 2, 3, 4

C Coral, H William Hall, L Lacturaless, S Stanley, T Rate

Programme and programme (a.g.)

SANDOWN

HYPERION 4.45 Zomaradah

2.15 Damalis 2.50 Fanfaron 5.15 Mulligan 3.30 Mahier 5.45 Tiger Talk 4.10 Dehoush

GOING: Good to Soft (Good in places); Chase course - Go STALLS: Straight course - lar side; remainder - freide, DRAW ADVANTAGE: High best 51 on soft ground. Right-hand course, seven lesting tences along back straight; run-in of 300yds. Sep-

■ Course is on A307, 4m S of Kingston, Esher station (service from London, Waterloo) adjoins course ADMISSION: Oub C16, Junior Cub (17 - 21 yrs) £12; Grandstand & Paddock £10; Park enclosure £5. CAR PARK: Free parking available FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS (Flat)

LEADING TRAINERS; Sir M Stoute 27-122 (221%), R Hannon 23-250 (92%), H Cecil 10-76 (21%) J Gooden 16-96 (63%), J Dunlop 16-107 (15%), B Machina 15-16 (127%). B LEADING JOCKEYS: Pat Eddery 51-246 (207%), L Dettori 43-206 (205%), J Reid 24-188 (128%), T Quinn 19-150 (127%), N Fallon 18-105 (152%), Fl Hills 18-108 (14.8%). FAVOURITES: 190-558 (341%).

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS (Jumps) LEADING TRAINERS: D Micholson 22-107 (206%), J Old 19-61 (311%), N Handers 17-112 (15.2%), P Nicholis 16-46 (34.8%), J Gifford 15-138 (10.9%), P Hobbe 13-57 (22.8%). ■ LEADING JOCKEYS: R Dunwoody 31-132 (23.5%), A P McCoy 20-109 (18.3%), A Maguire 18-97 (186%), M.A. Fitzgerald 18-127 (142%), C. Maude 10-44 (22.7%). ■ FAVOURITES: 133-380 (35%).

TONGUE STRAPS Callison Bay (3.30). LONG DISTANCE RUNNER (within UK). Major Bell (330) travels 361 miles. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Petrovna (215), Tumblewood Quartet (430), Glav

2.15 BEEFEATER RESTAURANT RATED HANDICAP(CLASS B)

_		£12,000 added 3YO 5t 6yds Penalty Value £7,164
1	01140-	LIGHT THE ROCKET (224) (CD) (M Muhatend) R Hennon 8 7
5	511-4	DOCTOR SPIN (16) (D) (Anthony Pye-Jeary) R Johnson Houghlon 9 6 Pat Eddeny !
3	4166-3	DAMALIS (21) (D) (Lam & Tony Ferguson) E Alston 9 0
4	2550-5	SAPHIFE (21) (D) (Ars Marian Rogers) C Booth 9 0
5	013-0	AEGEAN FLAME (9) (D) (Theobalds Stud) 8 Meeron 8 5 L Detion 2
6	65m-0	ONES ENOUGH (21) (D) (Heart Of The South Racing (3)) G L Moore 8 4 _M Roberts 5
7	31-334	PRINCE PROSPECT (21) (Maunce Parker) Mrs L Stabbs 84
8	51520-	PETROVNA (207) (D) (Dr Susan Barnes) P Giligan 8 4
9	140-65	MIDHISH TWO (21) (J Moron, Mrs J Cowley) P Mischell 6 4 R Mission (3) 1 - 9 declared -

Anumum weight: Bst 4th, True hendicap weights; Ones Enough Bst 3th, Prince Prospect Bst 2th, Petroyne 7st 12lb. Midhish Two 7st 10lh. BETTING: 7-2 Damells, 4-1 Septire, 5-1 Prince Prospect, 5-1 Doctor Spin, 7-1 Light The Rocket. legeen Flame, 8-1 Ones Enough, 14-1 others

1998: Race cancelled the to unfit course

FORM VERDICT

This combination of a saff 5i on soft ground is ideal for SAPHIRE, who can make the journey from Yorkshire worthwhile. The front-running per Light. The Rocket and Demails could find it lough to heing on under today's conditions and a bigger threat may be Doctor Splin. who ran well after a long absence on his reappearance.

2.50 BREWERS FAYRE NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £20,000 added 2m 4f 110yds £13,851 212221 DINES (25) (C) (T Chappel, T Curry, D Nichols 6 J Blackwell) P Nichols 7 11 10.3 Tizzard purple and white diamonds, white skeives, purple armiets and star on white cap P-13L/2 ANDSUEPHI (26) (D) (Mrs J A Cohen) S Sherwood 7 to 10............ dark blue and pink (quartered), striped sleeves whee, large red spots and armiets, quartered cap -123R2 FANFARON (FR) (21) (D) (Elte Racing Out) C Egenton 6 10 2 N Will

white, large black spots, black cap

FORM GUIDE

232U21 WINSFORD HILL (19) (D) (The Dominson Four) | Williams 8 10 0 yellow, black triple diamond linmom weight, 10s, True bandicap weight: Windows Hill Per 1185 BETTING: Evens Dines, 4-1 Andepophi, 9-2 Dark Stranger, 6-1 Fanlaron, 10-1 Winstord HM \$88" The Land Agent 7 to 9 M A Festierald 4-1 (J Mullima) 5 ran

Dines: Usually trant-numer but was very slow to jump off last time, when going on to beat Circus Star for his second 2m win at this course. Untested beyond 2m. Acts on any going Andswephi: Looked useful at around 2m4t first and latest starts this term, winning at Wincanton (soft) and short-headed by Cheerful Aspect at Warwick (good). Carried out third run Derk Stranger: Three times a winner at this sort of trip this term, in two novice handicaps and then easily in 3-runner recent Ascot (good to firm) in April. Run badly at Ayr 10 days later Fantaron: Pine chance on first two British starts, an easy win at Market Rasen and second to Hoh Express at Kempton (both 2m4), soft). Deappointing since, though 3m2) too far latest Winsford Hill: Not quite so good yet as he was over hurdles. 5 lengths second to Royal Toast at Towcester (2m. good to soft) before justifying 6-4 favouritism at Huntingdon (2m4), good) VERDICT: Olines has jumped well to win twice over this course already this season, but that was over two miles and there is a doubt about his effectiveness over today's trip. Given Dark Stranger's bad run last Saturday and that Winsford Hill has a suff task on his chase form, the two to trouble Dines are Fanfaron, who is thrown in on his best form, and ANSUEPHI, the most retable option after his sound effort

WHITBREAD GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHASE (Grade 3) (A) £100,000 3m 5f 110yds £57,400 mauve and park check, white steeves 2-P4SP FINE THYNE (39) (Pater Wiegand) Mrs A Perrett 10 10 0 ...

CHARLES PRINE IN THE END PRIES WEIGHTEN WAS A FERRED TO TO DO

CHARLES PRINC CHARLES WEIGHTEN WAS A FERRED TO TO TO THE WIND CHARLES WAS A WAS AND A WAS A WAS A WAS A WAS A WAS AND A WAS A WAS A WAS A WAS A WAS AND A WAS A WAS A WAS A WAS AND A WAS A WAS A WAS AND A WAS A WAS A WAS A WAS A WAS AND A WAS A WAS A WAS A WAS A WAS AND A WAS AND A WAS 55/161 BETTY'S BOY (30) (1 Berdiest and Mr W Brown) K Balley 10 10 0 _______ N Williamson yellow, brown alsewes, yellow armies;

F2940U THE LAST FLING (19) (89) (Micrael Jackson Boodsoch Mrs S Smeth 9 to 0 - 3 Durack brown, white hoop and sleeves, quartered cap

S11-20 EULOGY (39) (C) (Nicholas Coopen F Rowe 9 to 0 _______ B Fention marcon, yellow armies, quartered cap

S510U1 MAJOR BELL (19) (1 Middlemes, I Moklan, W Futton) A Whiters 11 10 0 _A Thomston royal blue and where diamonts, royal blue sleeves, light blue armiess, royal blue and white quartered cap

S13-34* CARBOO GOLD (USA) (70) (Hrs Binston C Nelson) K Balley 10 10 0 _____ R Waldey B white was the service and white the stress play blue armiess, royal blue and white quartered cap

19 declared
Minarum weight: 10st Rue handloop weighter Fire Rhyer 3st 13to, Robbylo 9st 10b, Betty's Boy 9st 10b, The Last Fing 9st 10b, Eulogy 9st 9b, Major Bell 9st 7b; Carboo Gold 9st 3b. BETTMK: 3-1 Boobsylo, 8-1 Betty's Boy, 10-1 Baronet, Mahler, 12-1 Boos Doylo, Naithean Lad, The Outback Why, 14-1 Fire Thyra, 16-1 Eulogy, General Wolf, 20-1 Calfisce Boy, The Last Fing, 25-1 Colonel In Chief, Court Makody, Major Bell, 33-1 Carboo Gold, Senor El Betrutti, Strath Royal 1998: Call It A Day 8 10 10 A Magure 8-1 (D Nachoson) 19 ran

FOR M GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Colonel in Chief, Court Malody, Major Bell, 33-1 Cariboo Gold, Senor El Betrutil, Strath Royal 1985: Call It A Day 8 10 10 A Magure 8-1 (D Nichoson) 19 ran
FORM GUIDE
General Wolfe: Haydock (and soft-ground) specialist. Found conditions too fast in National and tailed off behind Bolbby's and now 9th worse. Hee new jockey Senor El Betrutilt. Non-stayer in Gold Cup effer keeping on in 2nd to Teeton Mill at Ascot (2m37). Smart on his day over shorter and hard to farnoy at trip Bose Doyle: Smart novice and highly tried against Dorans Price and Florida Pearl since his defeat by Strath Royal at Wetherby and his 30-length 4th to Teeton Mill in Hennessy. 8b lower mark here but statman trip a worry.
Baronet: Lest year's Scottish National winner and 4m11 winner at Chettenham in January. Ran badly at Utilizater and early casualty at Ambre. Obvious hope at the trip Court Melady: Slow stayer and 3-length winner from Druids Brook in amateurs' race here fast month. 2nd to Carlete Bandio's here next time. Taled off in this last year Stristh Royal: Turned over Bose Doyle at Wetherby and leapt on in 4th to Major Bell there last one. Handicapped 10 go close on his best form but trip just a worry Nahthen Lad: Decent 3rd to Betry's Boy at Cheltonham (4th betrer here) and played promitent part for long wey in National, May again be found warming for finishing pace Calliscoe Bay; Kept on after looking held when 3rd to Eudigh here in January but dropped away and pulled up in Ceiver Remark's race here next time. Goes best when fresh so not without an each-way churce.

Jathib: Best over shorter trips when with Mentta Jones. Thed binkered at Chepstow (stiff task behind in The Blood) after a 15-length 6th to Betry's Boy at Cheltenham. 4th better off today and a live outsider with Mentta Jones. The box is cased on to move shorter two months later, both runs over shortex. Smart in navice days and could just do better for change of scenery (first start for Paul Nichols; First National winner stat year. Prefers deep for previous start The Las

VERDICT: BOBBYJO lines up with a fantastic chance of emulating Mr Frisk, who landed the Grand National and Whitbread double nine years ago. The dark horse is Jathilb, sall to win for Martin Pipe after the switch from Meritta Jones, and a gelding who could be anything over this long trip.

4.10 CLASSIC TRIAL (Group 3) (CLASS A) £60,000 C4

BETTING: 6-4 Clarmis, 9-2 Festival Hell, 5-1 Achaens, 11-2 Dehoush, 7-1 Farthretic Light, 12-1 Borsbard, 20-1 Turebleweed Quartet, 25-1 Cordict 598 Courseus 3 & 10 T Quinn 11-1 (P Cote) chavm (4) 4 ran

FORM GUIDE

Festival Hails 5 lengths third to Mus-It in Group 1 at the Curragh (im, good to soft).

B-11 talkine in Cork malderbefore control winner of Group 3 at the Curragh (im, soft) Admissin Nashwan half-brother 10 Homando, Won conditions stakes at Lelicestor and issed race (by ") length from Protest Shadow, having threshed strongly to tead over 20 out; at Newmarket, both over tim2 on soft surface. Im4! should sut him woil Sombard: Touched off close home by Distant Moon on debut here (good to soft) asst June 2-7, won another 7/ malden at Goodwood (good) two weeks later by 3 Conflict: Got up late to with 7-runner maden at Leicester (74, good) to soft), 25-1, 5% lengths softino Dehoush in listed race at Kempton (im, good), soon pushed along Dehoush Promise over 7 as 2yo 10-1 ost ground entering straight but finished strongly when warrang Kempton listed race by length from Wellace. Will stay 1m2? Famitastic Lights Won five-numer races for 7 malden and microthors states toy? I length from Assops) on sound surface here in August, Failed to Improve on that when 2% lengths second to Mutaahab in Group 2 Royal Lodge at Ascot (Im, soft) penditimate 2yo start. List Peace Of Mind 5 lengths behind to Kempton (Imat) good) Turnbetweed Quartet: Easily best form when thrift, about 2 lengths behind Auction House and Commander Colins, in Group 2 at Doncaster (71, good) in September. Only seventh in Kempton listed race and fin2's stakes at Newbury this season VERDICT: Festival Haif, Adnata, Bombard and GLAMIS are entered in the Derby. VERDICT: Festival Haif, Admain, Bombard and GLAMIS are entered in the Derby. The obvious one on form is Glams, second in a Group 2 last season and clearly in good heart again this term judged on the way he put five lengths and more between himself and four rivate in the final furlong at Kempton three weeks ago.

4.45 GORDON RICHARDS STAKES (Group 3) (A) £30,000 added 1m 2l Penalty Valua £19,200 C4 purple, while stars, aboves and star on cap 4160- EVENING WORLD (FR) (190) (D) (T M Holy-Hutchinson) M Pipe 4 8 10 M Roberta 2 109 nyef bise, yellow chevon, yellow clap, royel bise spots
6040 DIAMOND WHITE (10) (D) (Peter P Scott) M Ryen 4 8 7 R Price 5 110
black, while diennord, diennords on slewes, black cap, where diennord

BETTING: 11-4 Generous Roet, 4-1 Risk Material, Zomuradeh, 5-1 Secret Saver, 7-1 Dark Shell, 10-1 Evening World, 14-1 Prince Of Dentel, 20-1 Dynamism, 33-1 Diamond White 1998. Germano S 8-10 M Hits 6-1 (G Wragg) drawn (5) 5 ran

FORM GUIDE

Zomandah: Successful last season in Italian Cake (111, soft) at Milan and E.P. Tayfor Stalias (fm2t, firm; improved form) at Woodbrie. Below form in between
Risk Material: Has won 2 listed races and a Group 3 at 96/im21 in Ireland. Little im-

Risk Minterial: Has won 2 listed races and a Group 3 at 9t/m21 in Ireland. Little impact in two Group 1 events over thirst Acts on good to firm and soft. Dark Shelt: Won maiden here furzit good to soft) last June on debut. Useful form in frame in Group 3 to Goodwood, a stakes and listed race. Im21 may not suit him Dynamiam: Pain twice for Harry Cecil last May, winning maiden at Ripon. Sold 7,500 guness. 4 lengths third of 8 to Generous Ross in Kempton listed race (also Im21, good). Evening World: Trained by Paul Cole last senson, whining Im21 handicaps to Lingfield (good) and York (soft) in early-summer. Soft of 7 in Group 3 at Longdhamp. Generous Ross in Remarker from on good and soft) last two starts in 1998. 10-11, won one over Im21 at Kempton on return in good style by 3½ lengths from Shaya, with Dynamiam third and Damond Whee tourth. Prince Of Dealel: Rough and empoved last season, placed in Group 3 events (about 1772) won by Mutamam at both Haydock and Goodwood Needed run last week Secret Saver: Has had just lour races, 88 in just over 2 months last term. Ante-post tavourite for the Boor after win in 7-numer handicap at Newcastle (first) good to soft! favourile for the Ebor after win in 7-numer hartidizep at Newcastle (fm4t, good to soft) of 194, but was not seen again. Has potential but step back to 'im2' has to be a worry Olamond White: Useful (wan handicap and two conditions contests in 1966) but but to find in this grade. No reason why she should turn the tables on Generous Rosi VERDICT: GENEROUS ROSI looks set for a very bold showing following his stylsh victory at Kempton and can take advantage of the 4th concession from the smart fly Zomeradah. Alden O'Eher's Hisk Material is best of the rest on form, while the Strute-trained pair Dark Shell and Secret Saver have something to find in this grade but are lightly raced and open to progress this season.

5.15 PIZZA HUT SILVER TROPHY CHASE (Grade 2) (CLASS A) £30,000 added 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £19,200

FORM VERDICT

MRILLIGAN deserves this chance to confirm the improvement he showed at Amtree last time. He will have to battle for the lead with Super Tactics, but he can prove the stronger and hold off Edefwels Du Moulin up the hill.

5.45 DAVID LLOYD LEISURE HANDICAP (CLASS B) £14,000 added 3YO 1m 14yds Penalty Value £8,700

FORM VERDICT

Balsox will be popular given his trainer's record in this race and tollowing his easy success on similar ground at Nothingham lest month. However, BADAGARA showed plenty of courage at Newbury last week and is battle handened in handicaps so is given the narrow vote.

LEICESTER

HYPERION 2.00 Top Banana (nb) 4.00 Birth Of The Blues

2.30 BACKCLOTH (nap) 4.30 Gaelig Storm 3.00 Hoh Discovery 5.05 Mayo 3.30 Homestead 5.35 Tewwar GOING: Good to Soft (Soft in places).

STALLS: Stands side ORAW ADVANTAGE: High best 51 to timespecially on soit ground. Right-hand, unduleting course, with 8 straight mile.

Course is 2m SE of city off A6 Leicoster station (London, St Pancras - Sheffield

inal 2m. AOMISSION: Cub E13 Tattersalis £10 (OAPs £6) Picnic car park £25 admits car and four occupants Free recerards CAR PARK Free . FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS # LEADING TRAINERS: J Dunlop 24-133 (18%), R Hannon 24-157 (15.3%), H Cacil 16-63 (25.4%), P Cole 14-109 (12.6%), B Hille 13-68 (191%), Sir M Stoute 12-56 (21.4%)

■ LEADING JOCKEYS: 1. Dettorf 34-124 (274%), Pet Eddery 27-133 (20.3%), K Fallon 20-128 (55%), G Carter 15-136 (118%), Dene O'Neift 14-114 (12.3%), T Quinn 14-145 (9.5%) FAVOURITES: 181-583 (305%) TONGUE STRAPS: Adobe Moonshift (330), Ghasad (400), Tumbleweed Ridge (430). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Zola (veored, 230).

2.00 CARDINAL RACING HANDICAP (CLASS D) 25,250 edded 6f Penaity Value £4,309

1	233261	DCKER (7) (D) (1) leascase) Wrs N Macaulley 5 10 U . Dean Macketown 20
2	00034-	PURE COUNCIDENCE (182) (Assertane Ltd) W (Ausson 4 8 12 K Fallon 8
3	00000-	STAND TALL (173) (CD) (BF) (Crim Hardy) Lady Homes 79 ft K Derlay 12
4		CHAPLE SILLETT (538) (D) Lions Secti 8 His 79 to A Eddery (5) 8
5	04000-	PARISIAN LADY (210) (D) (AM Services) A Newscorbe 499 SWithworth 18
6	23400-	WELTON ARSENAL (J93) (D) (Pauton Bicodstock) Is, Bishop 7 9 8 N Pollard (3) 19
7	0/410-	SHANRALO (345) (D) (The Piccoto Boys) M Oremon 4 9 4 T Quan 2
В	3235-4	MADMUN (19) (Hamdan Al Maktoum) M Traponing 5.9 3 T Sprake 5
8		TOP BANANA (220) (D) (Henry Candy) H Candy 6 9 D Nicola Wright (7) 9
10		SENZOE (17) (D) (Tony Fewcett) A Turnel 9 8 18 R Hughes 17
71		COMPRADORE [19] [0] (Mrs. James Watters) M Blanshard 4 9 12 Dale Gibson 15
2		PIPS SONG (14) (D) (P J Edwards) Dr J Scargil 4 8 12
IJ	00-000	INCHALONG (8) (D) (Northgate Looke Partnerships) M Brittom 48 to M Semple (7) 14 V
14		KING OF PERU (19) (D) (M CSD Racing) N Littmoden 8 B 10 . TG McLaughlin 4
ъ		GORETSKI (7) (D) (P D Savil) N Timber 6 89 C Lowther 11
16		MALLIA (15) (D) (H T Duction) T D Barron 6 9 8 . R Cochrane 18 B
7		SHARP SCOTCH (7) IJ J Devaneyl D Carrol 686 N Callan (5) 7
8		VICE PRESEDENTIAL (196) (Q.C. Canons Ltd) J Gwen 4 8 4 F Norton 1
19		STRAT'S QUEST (14) (D) Lack Blumences D Artsuthnot 5 7 10 A Nicholis (5) 21 V
20		RAMBOLD (170) (D) (Ron Colins) N Berry 8 7 10 .N Cartisle 5
_		Commence of the Commence of th

Minimum weight 7st 10th. True handicaps weights. Stra's Quest 7st 9th, Rambold 7st 8th, Newlands BETTING: 6-1 Madmun, 7-1 Metilia, 8-1 Ockes, Compressore, 10-1 Pips Song, Newlands Corner, 12-1 Stand Tall, Sharp Scotch, Strat's Quest, 14-1 others 998 Meeting abandoned due to waterlogging

5400-6 NEWLANDS CORNER (11) (D) (The Joly Separa) J Alebura 6 7 10 A Polit (3) 15 B

- 21 deciseed -

FORM VERDICT Today's ground will pose no problems for COMPRADORE, who shaped well on her reappearance at Kempton and may be able to reverse placings with Madmun (fourth) on today's different going. A market move for Paristan Lady, who is well tremed on her best torm, would be interesting white Mattia and Stand Tall have also to be re-

-	фесио г	a Similar formal observe to branca	
2	2.30	KNIPTON HANDICAP (CLASS C) £9,000 add 3YO 1m 3f 183yds Penalty Value £6,687	C4
1		LUZ BAY [19] (S M De Zoete) R Cherhon 9 7 write, red seems, sinped sleeves, hooped cap	T Sprake 9 96
2	041-0	BAISSE D'ARGENT (9) (Winning Orde Racing Club) D Cosgrove 9 7 purple, overige skerves, overige cap, purple cap	A McGlone 280
3	0646-	SIR ECHO (FR) (169) IP A Death H Canaly 9 6 dam take, yellow cross belts, coller and culfs, surped cap	C Rutter 9 83
4		BACKCLOTH (16) (D Sett) J Duniop 9 4	T Clutnn 5 88
5		ROYAL MEASURE (16) (The Royal Partnership) 8 R Milman 9 3 reg and fight blue disboto, light blue siècess, quanared cap	M Fenton 7 84
6		RED MAY (12) (Terry Neil) R Hannon 9 3	Dane O Nelli 6 90
7		TURTLE VALLEY (5) (Cazanove Osar Height Racing) \$ Dow 8.0 Shack, gray armine, gray cap	P Doe (5) 1 98
8	530	MISCHIEF (16) (H R H Prince Fahd Salman) P Cole 5 12	A Clark 3 78

royal blue, and star, whate skeeves and stars, royal blue cap, and star - 9 declared -Brietium weight, 7st 10lb. True randicaps weight. John 7st 6fb BETTING: 5-2 Backcloth, 4-1 Luz Bay. 5-1 Turtle Valley, 6-1 Red May, 7-1 Royel Measure, 8-1 Sir Echo, 10-1 Baisse D Argent, 20-1 others

clark creen

340545 ZOLA (24) (M G Ourn) M Ourn ? 10

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Liz Bay: Seems suited by a starmar test and won claimer over this trip at Warwick 19 days ago, eased down to best Turtle Valley 2 lengths but now 9th worse Baless D'Argenth Reished im when wrinner of 6-numer maiden at Musseburgh. Better for run at Newmarket (stiff task in 8th to Moutahddee). Longer trip to suit today 5tr Echot: Promee shown in staying mediens lest form, Brad for this trip but fikely to be better for first start since November. Backcloth: Debut 7th of 18 to Little Rock (Sandown witner yesterday) and promising 3rd to warm favourite Sure Dancer here (tim2) to days ago. Fine chance in hicap Royal Meesure: Outpaced over shorter trips on AW before again staying on late when 4th to Toto Cesto over C&D. Better chance in a hicap and stable in form Red May; Persan Bold filly who shaped nocky on reappearance, staying on in 4th to Maiden's Brush (2nd has won since) at Windsor (tim2), Every hope over longer trip Turtle Velley: Big weight when staying on 6th to Debty Of York to Windsor lest Monday. Chance to reverse earlier Warwick form with Luz Bay and has good claimer aboard Mischieft Looked Slow on debut (AW) and again over this trip. Very stiff task on turf debut here behard Algumnass in hot maiden when appending riciden.

Zota: Modest form on AW and treed with a visor after latest poor snowing behind Lucky Nomo at Folkestone.

VERDICT: BACKCLOTH, all the better for an encouraging run in a maiden this month and not beaten far by yesterday's Sandown winner Little Rock last backend.

	3.00	WILLOUGHBY MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,000 added 2YO 5' Penaity Valme £2,742
1		CACOPHONY (Genecrasher Partnership) S Dow 9 0
2		CALDEY ISLAND (Demok C Broomfield) D Arbutmot 9 0
3	0	CORAN (12) (B A Evens) 8 Paling 9 D
4	0	FOLEY BIGTIME (16) (Foley Swelstock) M Outrn 90 F Norton 14
5		GROESFAEN LAD (John Harrs and Mrs San Harrs) 8 Paling 9 D T Sprake 11
6	2	HOH DISCOVERY (8) (D F Albort 6 Mr Alec Tudermant Baiding 9 0 K Fallon 3
7		XICK ON KATOLICHE (Astaire 6 Partners (Holdings) Ltd) K Burke 90 . M Callen (5) 13
8		NORFOLK REED (The South-Western Partnership) R Hennon 8 0 Dane O'Nelfi 8
9		PAPE DIQUE (Wile McKey) K McAulitle 9 0 MI Fenton 9
10		PRETENDING (Mrs. John Lee) J Bethel 9 0 F Lynch 8
77		TRAVESTY OF LAW (Suphen W Molloy) B Meetian 9.0
12		VIPEE (Roidvale Limited) A Nelieway 9 0 P Fredericts (5) 2
13		MESS SPRINGFRELD (Weekly Recorg) D Morris 89
14		TURTLE SURPRISE (C Avers) R Covel B9
		_ 14 declared _

BETTING: 4-5 Hon Discovery, 6-1 Norfolk Reed, 12-1 Pretending, 14-1 Cacophony, Kick On Katouche, Travesty of Law, 16-1 Page Diout, 20-1 others
FORM VERDICT Despite the cloubly-represented Bryn Palings record in this race, this tooks a good opportunity for HOH DISCOVERY to step up on his promising first run in what may have been a good race at Newbury. Caldey latend could prove the most interesting of the newcomers.

SPRING HANDICAP (CLASS E) 54 000 added 1m

l	3.30	Penalty Valua £3,756
1	133220	MAGICAL SHOT (28) (BIF) (J J Devency) D Carmil 4 9 13
2	02240	MUTADARRA (258) (D) (BF) (Mrs Fitz Brown) W Musson 6 9 TO
3	5/05-0	TABASCO (12) (Mountgrange Stud) M Charmon 498
4		SRAVE SAVOY 185) (C) (fort Burge) M Heaton-Sis 598
5		HOMESTEAD (4) (D) (G H Snoemark) R Hannon 58 to Newman (7) 2
9		NAKED OAT (11) (The Dybell Partnership) 8 Smert 4 8 13
7		ADOBE (26) (P R Kink) W Brisbourne 4 8 10 A Genth 5
8	04-065	MY LEGAL EAGLE (5) (E G Beven) R J Price 5 8 8 T Sprake 3
8	06000-	LANIN (283) (Demen Croft) D Cosprove 487 A McGlone 18
1		GIRLIE SET (515) (G.S. Strope've) Sr. M. Prescott 487
ī		CROSS TALK (800) (Demani Preceson Engineering Ltd) E Wheeler 7 8 4 S Carson (5) 8
t		INDY KNAGHT (47) (Cerek D & Mrs. Jean P Clee) R Peecock 4 & 3. Martin Dwyer 1
τ		MELASUS (12) (Mrs A Haynes) O Arbustrol 7 81 A Nicholis (5) 4
T		NORIE (4) (D) (Miss Debi J Vicods) M Britain 580 G Bardwell 9
1		MYSTERIUM (28) (Mrs G L Taylor) N Litimoden 5 7 t3
1	03000-	CAPTAIN MCCLOY (USA) (206) (D W Smith) N Berry 4 7 to
٦	7 Q/0000-	HARNAGE (186) (ice Cooling Limited) P Burgoyne 4 7 10
1	00000-0	DESRE'S GOLD (4) (Mel Brittan) M Britten 47 10
Ę	04500-	MOONSHIFT (J137) (C V Lines) H Collingridge 5.7.10
		- 19 declared -
ų	para mad	ht: 7st 10lb. True hendicaps weights: Harrage 7st 6lb, Desire's Gold 7st 2lb. Monshill 7st 1lb.
8	ETTING: 4-1	Homestead, 5-1 Brave Envoy, 6-1 Mutadarra, 8-1 Tabasco, Naked Oat, 12-1 Adobe,

My Legal Eagle, Mysterium, 14-1 others FORM VERDICT

It is hard to get every from HOMESTEAD. The selection is in form and proved he handled these conditions earlier in the week, if there is to be a surprise, it could well come from Cap tain McCloy, atthough Cirille Set will be of interest if the market speaks in her favour.

4	.00	GRANBY HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,000 added 3YO 1m Penalty Valva £3,574
1	0430-	GHAAZI (190) (Hemden Al Mekspurn) E Duniop 9 7
2	86-6	NAFITH (30) (Hamdan Al Maktourn) M Tregoring 97
3		WHY WORRY NOW (23) (N Hayes) R Harron 9 5
4	32300	GOODWOOD JAZZ (204) (Goodwood Owners Group) J Dunkto 9 4
5	0.3200	PISCES LAD (12) LI Falvey 8 Mr G Williamson) S Dow 93
5		BIRTH OF THE BLUES (19) (Scb Lalement) J Duntop 8 13
7		COCKATRICE (168) (Mrs David Sett) D Morris 8 12
8	04000-	PERSILE MOON (202) (Mrs Christine Stevenson) M Jarvis 8 TI L Stoker (7) 13
9	500-4	WONDERFUL MAN (23) (F. J. Sansbury) M. Heston-Ells 85
10	50-0	BOKELLI (24) (Lotal Partnersho) J Arrold 8 4
П	62240-	
12	000-000	ABLE PETE (16) (Alex Gome) D Cosgrove 82
10	00055-	PURPLE DAWN (175) (Mrs Angela Speyer) J S Moore 8 0 A Nicholis (5) 1
14	0600-	NORTHCATE (208) (Med Britain) M. Britain 7 12
15	433660	MALCHIK (6) (CD) (I G Mirzoari) P Howing 7 10

A Clark 3.79 —15 declared — 15 declared —

A Clark 3.79 —15 declared —

A FORM VERDICT

Three-year-old only hendicaps are difficult notes to assess at this time of year, and with a plethora of unexposed contenders this race is no exception, WONDERFUL MAN ran well enough on he reoppearance in what might well have been an above-average maiden handcap at Masseburgh, with the probability of improving somewhat it setting better. He is narrowly preferred to Pebble Moon one of many dangers.

4.30 LEICESTERSHIRE STAKES (Group 3) (CLASS A) £30,000 added 7f Penalty Value £18,360

- 10 declared BETTING: 7-2 Grazia, 9-2 Androyev, 5-1 White Heart, 6-1 Gaelic Storm, Warningford, 15-2 Trans Island, 14-1 Jimmy Too, Turnbleweed Ridge, 16-1 Cratan Gift, Wind Cheetah FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Andreyev: All who last term over 8/ but stays 7/ Likes cut in the ground so fine chance with a run under his belt (badly drawn when 4/h o Tedburrow at Doncaster, 6/)

Tumbleweed Ridge: Over he optimum trip and acts in soft ground. Bedly drawn on reappearance in Newmarket hidep (won the race in 1998). Best Wizard King in a Group 3 at Leopardstown leaf June

Cretan Gift: Yet to win beyond 6/. 4-length 2nd to Bold Edge at Newmarket after his 10-length 4/h to Warmingford at Warwick (7/h. 5/hf task on same terms

Gaelle Storm: Smart hendicapper who beat Warmingford (2/b better) just over a length at York in October. Copes well with soft ground and return to 7/l will suit judged on latest 3nd to Nignashe at Thirsk.

Jimmy Too: Faded when unplaced to Night Shot in Doncaster hidap (5/h), Goes well in soft ground. Held by Geelic Storm on two runs leaf season but Kieren Fellon booked Trans Island: Very smart juvenile and 2nd to Desert Prince in Free Hidap prior to a disqualification in a Group 2 in Italy Unraced since May (8th in Group 2 in Cologne) but stable's All Azhar went close at Sandown yesterday

Warmingford: All wins at this trip, the latest on reappearance from Grandy's Pet (Cretan Gift 4/h) at Warwick. Well exposed in Group 2 over the trip last term

White Heart: Winner of helf 7/l hidap at Ascot last season (Geelic Storm, Tumbleweed Ridge, Warningford behand). Lested race (my winner at Doncaster on reappearance and reverts to more suitable trip after latest 8th to Shive at Newmarket (m)

Wind Cheetah: Lightly raced since juvenile win. Chances on 3rd to Ramodz as 3-y-o but unraced since 7/h to Tedburrow a year ago (6/h). Worth Leeping on right side Grazia: Very pacey Sharpo filly who was impressive at Newburry on har reappearance last year. Only with to Seeking The Pearl in Group One at Deauwile in August. Has turn of foot and leading chance in wealosh Group 3

VERDICT: GRAZIA won in style first time up leat season have only other start ween to France answer clicker this. Wind Cheestah is the inter

VERDICT: GRAZIA won in style first time up last season and her only other start was in a Group One in France against older rivals. Wind Cheetah is the interesting outsider from a stable that had a nice winner at Sandown yesterday. Andreyer was

5.05 REDMILE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (DIV I) £5,250 added 1m 2f Penalty Valua £4,023

FORM VERDICT Luce Cumani has his 3yos in excellent form and this boks straightforward for Derby entry StLVER ROBIN, who has the melongs of a decent coli. There is little in the way of solid form against him and he could go off very short indeed if there is no confidence behind any of the newcomers as the Dect representative Maryo looked ordinary last autumn.

5.35 REDMILE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (Div ii) £5,250 added 1m 2f Penalty Valua £3,997

FORM VERDICT

PUTTING VESTATION:

With newcomers from the yeards of Henry Cecl. Ed Dunlop and Luca Cumani in the line-up
the betting here will clearly be aggrificant. But TAWWAG showed the ability to win a race
of this nature last year, comes from a stable in form and a Derby entry suggests he is held
in some regard.

Age of nostalgia in close-up and super slo-mo

HOW MANY great sporting moments have you witnessed in the flesh? Not many. How many have you seen on the telly? Every single one, I bet. Most people's recollections of such occasions are framed by the TV screen. It's nostalgia in close-up and super slo-mo, embellished with opera scores, indy bands and techno beats.

My memories of the 1991 European Cup-Winners' Cup final include seeing my brotherin-law caught on camera just before kick-off in Rotterdam draped, for some reason, in the Stars and Stripes, leering ecstatically at the camera. That is desperately wanted Benfica to as much a part of my experience of the game as Mark Hughes's



SPORT ON TV

Cup final, I watched it with David Parry, my next-door neighbour, an Everton fan who win, his dad, who also supported Everton hut was behind United because they were Eng-The last time Manchester lish, and Uncle John from down United were in the European the road a Liverpool fan, but as

been about England a couple of years earlier. My godmother went to the match with her is that for most people, espefriend, Mary (Shay Brennan's sister, as it happens), who had to be passed over the heads of the crowd when she fainted. She saw none of that match. Her memory of it is restricted to the first-aid room at Wembley. I remember it, like most people, in

The point about all this is that on Wednesday night, a ball of clammy-handed tension in front of the TV I felt guilty that I wasn't there in Turin, guilty that I hadn't been in Rotterdam eight years ago, guilty that I probably woo't be in Barcelona in a few weeks, guilty that despite supporting United for 32 years, I have seen them in the flesh con-

gritty, grainy black and white.

I think the point I am making

cially these days, football is an exclusively televisual experience. It was appropriate that Rupert Murdoch tried to huy United as it was the historic Sky deal in the first place that stumped up the cash, pumped up the volume and plumped up the club till it was ripe for takeover. And it was the consequent explosion of wall-to-wall coverage that enabled United. who had always enjoyed plenty of support outside the city any- to fill the void (cf Nick Hornby way, to extend their fan base to anywhere a dish could be in-

Why else are there legions of parents all over the country tearing their hair out because spot for Celtic was established

patriotic about United as he had siderably fewer times than I've the kids love Becks and Giggsy rather than their local maestro? Blame Murdoch. Not that it's just a United phenomenon there are probably young Gunners in Goole and young

> Chelseaites in Chester. Though I was the son of Mancunians, they weren't interested in football and we lived 50 miles away, so it was only because of TV that I became a United fan when, one Sunday afternoon a couple of weeks after my dad had died, I saw them beat West Ham 6-1 to take the title in 1967. Football rushed in and how football helped him deal with his parents' divorce) and I. was enslaved for life, my development arrested at that precise moment in time. (A lifelong soft

around the same time when claimed, "They've seen the Juthey beat Internazionale so magnificently in the European Cup final.)

It was probably Brian Moore commentating at Upton Park for The Big Match, though it might have been Gerald Sinstadt, who was Granada's main man in those days. We could have done with Moore on Wednesday because although Clive Tyldesley is a trier, he lacks a yard of pace at the highest level (mind you, so did Moore, especially in his

Tyldesley seems to be trying to establish himself as a maker of memorable phrases, although I was left wondering if he was thinking on his feet or reading a few bon mots he prepared earlier. When United equalised on Wednesday, he ex-

ventus away goal, and they've raised it." I can't decide whether hat's brilliant or terrible. Probably the latter. To single out Tyldesley is unfair, though: Motty and Barry "The Great" Davies apart, terrestrial football commentating is at the prover-

bial all-time low. Still, at least Tyldesley isn't Frank Skinner The West Bromsupporting comedian does an extremely funny stand-up routine, I am told, and his off thecuff jokes were usually the best part of Fantasy Football League, especially when it ran out of ideas. But these ingredients clearly do not equip him to be a chat-show host, as the second in the series of The Frank Skinner Show (BBC1, Thurs-

day) cruelly demonstrated.

His poor victim; Alan Hansen, came over - not surprisingly - as spiky, bringing Skinner to a merciful halt at one point over the host's precedu-pation with Hansen taking a glass of fruit cordial to bed with

On and on Skinner banged, to looks of increasingly withering contempt from the gimleteyed pundit. I kept turning over, squirming, then turning back to see he was still going on about it. It was dim, dumb, embarrassing witless, brainless, pointless and about as funny as those Fantasy Football sketches where they dressed up as Saint and Greavsie (yes, it really was that bad). Whoever is in charge of these things, please, please, please, please, please Do Not Give This Man Another Series.

Moya's forlorn

BUSINESS WAS booming, on and off the courts, at the Moote Carlo Opeo yesterday, with the unseeded Jerome Golmard, of France, advancing to the semifinals by defeating Spaniard cramping but the winners kept Carlos Mova, the title holder, ton seed, and French Open champion, 6-7, 6-3, 6-0.

Another impressive statistic was the confirmation of a £750m 10-year agreement granting television, marketing and licensing rights for the ATP Tour to International Sporting Leisure Worldwide, who have provided a similar service for the Olympic Games and the Fifa World Cup.

Mova, who spent two weeks as the world No 1 in March, has lost each of his three matches against Golmard, a left-hander from Dijon, ranked No 25 in the world, who lived up to Tim Henman's description of him as

"unorthodox. hut effective". Even so, Henman, who has suffered three times at the have been surprised how ineffective Moya was in the final set, particularly since Golmard took an injury time out for treatment to his right thigh. The Spaniard cut a forlorn figure, receiving a code violation for hitting the ball into the stands after losing the

first three games. "I did that in frustration," Mova said, "Golmard was

BY JOHN ROBERTS

in Monte Carlo

coming. Tve not seen a player hit the lines as much as he did." An all-Spanish quarter-final

duel was won by Felix Mantilla. who repeated his victory against Albert Costa in last year's Bournemouth final. although in tighter circumstances. Mantilla had his first match point in the second set, hut was taken to a tie-break. Costa, who led 3-0 in the third set weot on to create four match points at 5-3. This time he was the ooe taken to a tiebreak, which Mantilla secured 7-4 with his second match point. winning 6-4, 6-7, 7-6 after two hours and 46 minutes.

In today's semi-finals, Mantilla will play the Brazilian Gustavo Kuerten, the 1997 French Opeo champion, who ended Freochman's hands, would the American Vince Spadea's encouraging first visit to Monte Carlo, 6-3, 6-3.

Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski are least effective during the clay-court season, both losing in the second round here this week after byes in the opening round. Henman, who gave a creditable performance while losing in three sets to Fernando Meligeni in the singles,



Spain's Felix Mantilla goes full stretch during the 6-4, 6-7. 7-6 defeat of his compatriot Alberto Costa in the quarter-finals of the Monte Carlo Open yesterday

yesterday, partnering the of the Czech Republic. Frenchman Olivier Delaitre. They defeated the Italian Davis Cup pair, Andrea Gaudenzi and Diego Nargiso 7-6, 6-3, winning ments, at Indian Wells, Key men's tournaments outside the the first-set tie-break 8-6, and Biscayne, Monte Carlo, Hamfour Grand Slams: Wimhledon,

WOLVERHAMPTON

HYPERION

7.00 Make Ready 7.30 Over The Moon 8.00

Noukari 8.40 Majestic 9.25 Samwar 9.50

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low to middle best for 71

■ Fibresand, left-hand, oval course.
■ Course is N of town on A149. Wolverhampton station int, ADMISSION; Cuto £20; Exterealls £10 £2 off for OAP members of Diamond Cuto). CAR PARIX: free.
■ FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS
■ LEADING TRAINERS: R Hollinshead 70-596 (†1.7%), N Littmoden 54-395 (*1.6%), M Johnston 47-251 (*1.7%), Osan LEADING JOCKEYS: S Sanders 43-311 (13.8%), Osan

McKeown 39-315 (124%), J Weaver 37-211 (175%).

FAVOURITES: 482-1530 (322%).

TONGUE STRAPS: Sweat Magic (925), Ding Dong (925), BUINKERED FURST TIME: Samwur (925), Storm Cat (950), The

7.00 EQUESTRIAN HANDICAP (CLASS E) 23,500 added filles & mares 5f

— 13 declared —
African weight: 7st 10b, True handcap weights: Rise'N Shine 7st 9b, Marjone Rose 7st 7b, Scrattering Sound 7st 7b, Maydono 7st 2b, Opening Range
7st, Lady Bartson 6st 11b.
BETTING: 3-1 Trojen Girl, 4-1 Heavenly Mise, 5-1 Marke Ready, 8-1 Rise
N Shine, 10-1 Mise Ht, Light Breeze, 12-1 Happy Days Again, Scindlatting Sound, 18-1 others

FORM VERDICT

Trojen Girl has such a good record here and must be respected but she faces a well-handicapped mail in HAPPY DAYS AGAIN.

who had some depart but form off much higher ments lest so

son, was placed on her only outing here and could be hard to

GOING: Standard. STALLS: 71 & 1m 61 - outside; remainder - Inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low 10 middle best for 71

Noodcock (visored, 9.50).

at least advanced to his first new play Don Johnson, of the burg, Rome, Montreal, Cincin-plus the French, United States clay-court doubles semi-final United States, and Cyril Suuk. nati, Stuttgart and Paris, and and Australian Opens

ISL Worldwide will focus on

the year-end ATP Tour Championship, which is due to move increasing the exposure of the from Hanover after this season. ATP Tour's Super 9 tourna- These are the most important

ISL Worldwide's managing director, Daniel Beauvois, spoke about creating a specific look for the Super 9s and linking them with "hlue chip global companies".

process of selling their Super 9 event at Key Biscayne, Florida, to Mark McCormack's International Management Group for a reported £18.75m. The tournament, formerly

The Buchholz brothers, sponsored by Lipton, becomes Butch and Cliff, are in the the Ericsson Open from next year. It is intended that the Buchholzs, who built the tournament over 15 years, will continue to organise the event for the next five years at least.

Channon has Royal Ascot in his sights

TWO OF Mick Channon's best two-year-olds go oo display in the next fortnight and the Kingsdown trainer has Royal Ascot on his mind as he sends the recent winners Ma Yoram and Cotton House to Ascot and Salishury respectively.

:h·

ac of

While it is nearly impossible for the trainer to replace Bint Allayl, who died in the winter, the trainer sees both Ma Yoram and Cotton House as possibles for the Royal meeting.

Of Ma Yoram, who made all to score easily on his debut at Kempton on Easter Saturday, Derby Day." Channon observed: "We expected him to do it as smoothly as that and the next step will give him experience of Ascot as I intend running him in the Garter Stakes there on 28 April."

"Cotton House is a pretty good filly and she's in great heart. While she might not be her debut win at Warwick. The furlong sprint."

plan is to take her to Salishury oo 2 May and then go for the Queen Mary."

One Channon-trained twoyear-old who will be resting on his laurels for a few weeks is Alfailak, so convincing on his introduction to racing at the Newmarket Craven meeting.

"He did it like a real professional," Channon said. "But he wants six furlongs and I've decided to hang on to him until the Woodcote Stakes at Epsom oo Channon has also given

Golden Silca the go ahead for a crack at the 1,000 Guineas following her secood to Wince in the Fred Darling Stakes at Newbury. "Richard Quinn said we'd have beaten the winner if Golden Silca had settled better and not got first run on her. It another Bint Allayl she's come wasn't an ideal preparation as on in leaps and bounds since she jumped out as if it was a six-

RACING RESULTS

SANDOWN Going: Good to Soft (Soft in places) 2.05: 1. LITTLE ROCK (L Dettori) 7-2: 2. Grand Somel 50-1; S. Casino Royale 12-1 5 ran. 4-9 fav Ballet Master (4th), 2/5, st-hd. (Sr Michael Stoute, Newmarket), Tota: £440; £180, £410, DF: £68.70, CSF: £69.93, NF:

*THE IND		
RACING	SERV	ICES
0891	261	+
LIVE COMMEN	TARIES	RESULTS
SANDOWN	971	981
RIPON	972	982
LEICETER	973	983
MARKET RASEN	974	984
WORCESTER (E)	975	985
SEDGEFIELD (E)	976	980
WOLFLAMPTON (E)	070	980

2.39: 1. SILK ST JOHN (R Cochrane) 4-1 jr lav (2.) Al Ashar 25-1; 3. Mount Holly 5-1.9 ran. 4-1 jr lav (2.) Al Ashar 25-1; 3. Mount Holly 5-1.9 ran. 4-1 jr lav (2.) Al Ashar 25-1; 3. Mount Holly 5-1.9 ran. 4-1 jr lav (2.) Al Ashar 25-1; 5-1 jr lav (2.) Ashar 25-1; dom 9-1 10 ran. Hd. 2%, IJ Paarca New-markett. Tota: C830; E220, C170, E210 DF; E1690, CSF: C28.77, Tricost: E20487

marketi, Totat 1830; 1220, E170, E210 DF; 16590 CSF; 62877, Tribast 120487
4.10: 1, SARROA (K Fallon) 13-2; 2. Thirotore 11-2; 3. Endorsement 14-1; 10 ratu. 6-5 ke/ Kryaria Lily 21-, 17, (H Cecil, Newmarketi, Totat 1740; 1180 CSB, 1200 DF; 15330 CSF; 12678 MF; Sena Desert.
4.40: 1, NEVER DISS MISS (R Hills) 20-1; 2. Chambing Lofta 15-2; 3. Divise Prospect 25-1; 13 ratu 9-4 har Kairci, 50h; 37, hat J Williams, Newmarket, Veter 12-200; 6770; 12-200; 62-20 DF; 1530; CSF; 12-558 MF; Bur Vetvet, 5-16: 1, THE PUZZLER (M Hills) 6-1; 2. Halmeher 12-1; 3. Passion For Life 11-4 ker, 4. At Large 2-1; 17 rat. 3.2 (B Hills, Lamboum), Rate (370; 1240 C830 C98), 12-50 DF; 12-5570 CSF; 12-6635, Tricaet 12-2738, NR; Brimstone, DR, Murgo Park, Jackpot Not vort; 11-584585 cambol forward to Sandown Index.

7.30 DRESSAGE APPRENTICE CLAIMING STAKES (F) £3,000 added 1m 100yds

FORM VERDICT

BE WARNED regularly performs to a level of ability which will make him hand to beet here and his long-standing association with An-tonio Polli is a bonus. Hamilball Lad has more to 60 than when landing a seller here last time, but is open to improviment and

8.00 JOAN CHALK MEMORIAL HANDICAP (CLASS C) £9,000 sdded 1m 6f 166yds

1 0-3035 STEAMROLLER STAMEY (21) K Burle 8 10 0 ... N Callan (8) 7
2 21-244 NDUFARI (FT) (42) (CD) R Hollanad 8 9 4 P M Culton (7) 5
3 0-309 PHILOSOPHIC (A29) (CD) (8F) Mrs L Jewel 5 8 3... Judim 1
4 1000- CHEEK (200) (C) C Cytes 5 9 3 G Certer 2
4 43352 NDUKARI (80) P Entre 8 8 2
4 43352 NDUKARI (80) P Entre 8 8 2
4 10065 EVEZION CITY (14) (8F) Miss J A Carrectio 5 8 0 L Charnock 4
7 10065 EVEZION CITY (14) (8F) Miss J A Carrectio 5 8 0 L Charnock 4
7 10065 EVEZION CITY (14) (8F) Miss J A Carrectio 5 8 0 L Charnock 4
8 -7 declared - 7 to Galande - 7 to R Thomas (7) 8 5
- 7 declared - 7 declared - 8 to Charlo (5) 10 L Carrectio 5 8 0 L Charnock 6 1 Noutari, Cheek To Charlo, 7-1 Philosophic, 25-1 Evezio Rufo
ECORDA ACCEDITION

0-3035 STEAMROLLER STANLY (21) K Burke 8 10 0 ... N Callen (5) 7

FORM VERDICT

QUEZON CITY appeats as a trans who has a good deal more to offer in this type of contest.

8	.40 SHOW JUMPING MAIDEN STAKE: (CLASS D) £4,000 added 1m 4f
1	GO MAN (J19) P Evans 5 6 13 J F Egan
2	4425 KAJESTIC (19) Witame 4 9 12 J Weaver 10
3	5-2 STAR FANTASY (26) (BF) D Bridgesier 4 9 12 V Stations
4	CRACK SHOT (J19) J Nevde 5 9 B A Mackey
5	0000-4 EPWORTH (26) L Berratt 5 9 3 S Drowne
đ	3-400 FRISKY FOX (4) R Humshead 5 9 8 K Fallon

- 10 declared -BETTING: 5-4 Star Fantasy, 4-1 Majestic, 5-1 Frigity Fox, 5-1 Neithan's Hero, 10-1 Minty, 20-1 Epworth, 25-1 Crack Shot, Esterelle, 33-1 others

FORM VERDICT MAJESTIC ought to be hard to beat, though it seldom pays to be dogmate with a horse who has plead so often without win-ring. Bumper winner Crack Shot could go well it taking to sand

9.25 PUISSANCE SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,500 added 5f

-10 declared -BETTING: 7-4 Sweet Magic, 5-2 Semmer, 7-1 Tuccan Dream, 8-1 Mam-mes F-C, 12-1 Friendly Brave, Statoyork, 14-1 Little Box, 20-1 others FORM VERDICT

SWEET MAGIC has been threathring to open his AW account in recent months, and is primed to do so dropped in grade under Kieren Fallon here, though do not take too short a price. Mem-

9.50 HORSE OF THE YEAR HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,000 added 7f 12343 PLITE HOPE (28) (CD) N Tinder 7 10 0 McAuley (7) 1

FORM VERDICT

Of the regular visitors to this land of surface C-Harry makes a good deal of appeal, however, it is impossible to ignore how well treated PRESENT CHANCE could be and the fact that he parformed with gradity, over an incolleguate distance, here in April last year, sust shades the decision in his favour.

RIPON

2.05 Beacon Vale 2.35 Pipadash 3.05 Ranaan 3.40 Yes Keemo Sabee 4.15 Internal Affair 4.50 Tough Leader 5.25 Evesham

INSPECTION 7.30em

GOING: Soft (Heavy patches). STALLS: Straight course - stands' side; round course - inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: High numbers best on soft ground over 91 High best over round im. Right-hand course. A sharp track with tight bends.

Course is sest of the city on 88285. ADMISSION: CLb £14: Tattersalis £9 (OAPs £8); Silver Ring £4; Course £3 (accompanied under-16s free all enclosures). Stay same all 1999 season. CAR PARK: Car and up to four occupants in course enclosure £10; remainder free. FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS LEADING TRAINERS: M Johnston 19-108 (178%), T East-

erby 17-33 (128%), H Cocil 13-32 (406%), L Current 12-45 (26.7%). ELEADING JOCKEYS: K Darley 34-146 (228%), K Fallon 22-106 (208%), J Wesver 18-103 (15.5%), J Carroll 14-145 (9.7%), FAVOURITES: 152 436 (34.9%). TONGUE STRAPS: Diamond Decorum (305), Kantucky Bul-

let (305); Kettymann (415). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None. 2.05 BANDSTAND SELLING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,000 added 1m 2f

OUR JACK C Kelen 4 9 10...... J Femalog 6 005-50 SMPLE IDEALS (USA) (17) N Tinkler 5 0 TO ... Kinn Tinkler 11 12204 WESTERN GENERAL (14) Miss K Miligan 8 9 to D Sweeney 2 A300- LAKE TAAL (214) Miss J.A. Carrecho 4.9 5... L. Charmock 10 0 MECHRISHT DESAM (20) A Smith 4.9 5... R FibePatrick (5) 12 10 0-0050 SEPRATE (50) R Mervn 5 0 5 SRighton 9 11 0-6000 SIDNEY THE KEDNEY (85) M Ryen 5 9 5 J F Egen 5

norre, 9-1 Skapte Ideals, 10-1 Lake Text, 12-1 Beacon Vets, 16-1 others

- 12 declared -

2.35 DISHFORTH NOVICE AUCTION STAKES (E) £3,500 added 2YO filles 5f 4 KUURPO (6) B Rothwell 85 R Winston (3) 8 1 BLACKPOOL MAMBAA'S (23) (D) J Berry 8 3 P Feeely 11 04 COLLEGE MAID (14) J Golde 8 2 J F Egan 4 MISS ROXANNE K Hogs 82J Grambii 12 DISPOL FIRMA P Coher 7 13 J Michaeley (7) 5 D DISTRICTLY BLU (23) K Ryan 7 t3 Familing 2 INDRECT K Ryan 7 13 A McCenthy (3) 10 WAIKATO M W Sesterby ? Burney ... O Perion 1

BETTING: 5-2 Pigadesh, 7-2 Tara's Girl, Riscipped Mamma's, 9-2 Dig. 5 mond Promise, 7-1 Kisulpo, 12-1 College Maid, 20-1 Dispol Emma, Villa

Results, Digest, page 25 3.05 VICTOR CHANDLER HANDICAP (CLASS D) \$6,000 added 3YO 6f

3.40 CB HUTCHINSON MEMORIAL CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP (C) £10,000 added 2m

4.15 BBC RADIO YORK PRO-AM LADIES HANDICAP (E) \$4,000 added 1m BETTING: 9-4 Stone Flogs, 3-1 Western General, 7-1 Dr Woodstock, Ton-

-18 declared -Minimum weight: 8st 7b. True handicap Palar Refreih dar 4b. Hi Muljerid No. 25. BETTING: 4-1 Internal Affaix, 6-1 Rembo Waltzer, Holy Smolle, 7-1 Teichlid, Send Hawk, 8-1 Amron, Komitucky, 10-1 others

4.50 LANGTHORPE STAKES (CLASS C) £9,000 added 1m 4f 60yds

5.25 ALDBOROUGH MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3YO 1m 2f 1 EVESTAM (USA) M JOTISON 8 0 J Warver 2
2 D HADITOVSIG (259 T Ties 90 T JOTES 3
4 EXISTER HARVEY M DOG: 8 0 T Windows (3) 1
5 OO TONGARRO (USA) (159) H Coel 9 0 T Windows (3) 1
5 OO TONGARRO (USA) (159) H Coel 9 0 T W Hydra 4
5ETTING: 11-10 Evestiam, 2-1 Tongarko, 0-1 Pulseantkoola, 8-1 Haditovaki, 12-1 Mister Harvey

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Doherty given a shock by Bond

NIGEL BOND provided a shock for the former title holder Ken Doherty hy taking a 3-1 interval lead at the start of their second-round match in the Embassy World Championship in Sheffield yesterday.

Bond, a runner-up to Stephen Hendry in 1995, has struggled for form all season but has recently been receiving guidance from Derek Hill, who until earlier this year bad been Ronnie O'Sullivan's unofficial

The new partnership appears to be working as Bond made the ideal start to the hest-of-25 frames encounter against his Irish stablemate. The Derbyshire professional, ranked 13th in the world, captured the opening three frames, including a break of 67 in the second frame.

Doherty, the No 4 seed, has been among the most consistent players this year, reaching the final of the Benson and Hedges Masters at Wembley. But he has yet to win a ranking title since defeating Stephen Hendry in the 1997 world final.

Stung into action yesterday, Doherty cut loose in the fourth frame to compile a run of 83 to open his account - but he still had a long way to go.

John Parrott and Chris Small resumed yesterday morning deadlocked at 4-4 and when they reached the midway interval of their second session the duo still could not be sepa-

Once again Parrott set the pace by making breaks of 55 and 66 to lead 5-4 and 6-5. But Small, the world number 25, refused to be shaken off and hit back to level at 6-6.

Small holds the key to the and Jimmy White, as the longer ship the more precarious are the élite positions of the two Crucible legends. Parrott was doing his best to help them out, hut was becoming increasingly frustrated by his failure to pull clear.

In the first 12 frames Parrott made breaks of 66, 71, 80, 65, 55 round.

BY MARK PIERSON

at The Crucible, Sheffield

and 66, while Small's most telling contribution was just ooe half-century. On Thursday evening John

Higgins gave the clearest indication yet that he will not be handing over his title without a The 23-year-old world No 1

is attempting to become the only first-time champion in Crucible history to retain his title - and yesterday Higgins was striving to reach the quarter-finals while his main rivals have yet to start their secondround matches.

Higgins hammered Mark King, the world No 16, with a fusillade of breaks to build up a lead of 8-0. King, who once scored only 11 points against Higgins in a best-of-nine frames ranking tournament match, did very little wrong - he just had no idea how to stop Higgins piling up the breaks.

The Scotsman hegan the rout with a break of 75 and then followed up with back to back century hreaks. Another half century helped him reach the mid-session interval 4-0 up, though King continued to pot balls for practice when already 87-16 behind.

When the match resumed King did not get any more table time. Higgins added runs of 48, 62, 84 and 77 while King's high-est hreak of the session was

. None of the other contenders have played as well as Higgins so far - certainly not Ronnie O'Sullivan, a semi-finalist twice in the last three top-16 futures of Steve Davis years. His best break was only 68 in a 10-3 triumph over Leo he remains in the champion- Fernandez, the London based qualifier who promised much hut delivered little.

> pen, because that's when I play my best snooker," O'Suilivan. the world No 3, said. He will now take on Joe Perry, who overcame Steve Davis in the first



New Zealand's Joe Vagana is hauled back by Australia's Darren Smith (left) and Andrew Johns in Sydney yesterday

Smith's timing suits Monie

TONY SMITH will time his return for his first Super League match of the season perfectly this weekend with the visit of his old club. The Wigan and Great Britain scrum-half has been out for 11 weeks after breaking his ankle in the pre-season friendly at Halifax, hut takes his place

against Castleford tomorrow. That is welcome news for the Wigan coach, John Monie, after a second Super League defeat of the season, at Halifax last "I really want things to hapweek, left them hracketed with Cas on eight points - already four behind the leaders, St Helens. "It will be a great relief to have Tony back," Monie said.

RUGBY LEAGUE By DAVE HADPIELD

> Greg Florimo to settle in without our regular half-back, hut hopefully they will start to strike up a partnership." Monie is still short of bodies

elsewhere in the team, with Phil Jones making his first start on the wing and the Academy winger, Liam Bretherton, making his debut appearance on the bench.

Elsewhere, the usual pre-Wembley question applies of how the finalists will be affected. The London coach, Dan Stains, does not believe that the hig and goal-kicker in the final.

occasion looming explained his side's 40-8 thrashing at Wakefield last week. "We lost sight of a lot of things that we have been doing and I include myself in that," he said. "I feel responsihie for the result, and there has been a lot of soul-searching this week. We have got to go back to doing the things that made us successful,"

For this evening's home game against Warrington, he is without the suspeoded Rohhie Simpson and the injured Peter Gill - both of whom will be available for Wembley - but has Rob Smyth back in the team, auditioning for the roles of winger

Leeds' Graham Murray, on the other hand, admits that his players have been affected by the impending occasion. "I thought I could avoid it," he said, hut the evidence of some that neither he nor they can.

greatly impressed their coach, standing in. Malcolm Reilly. A clutch of Leeds players, including Daryl Andy Hay, will be out to demonstrate their fitness. Leeds' immediate priority

is not to fall any further behind

threatened too seriously by Hull, who are still without a win. Their coach, Ellery Hanley, was critical of Saints' display against Sheffield last week, hut he has Paul Newlove hack. unconvincing recent form is Tommy Martyn is likely to miss out with a shoulder injury, with For all that, they should be Paul Wellens, one of several too good for Huddersfield, young Saints who have repaid whose two recent wins have not Hanley's faith so far this season,

point. Salford, have a difficult Powell, Marvin Golden and task at improving Gateshead, while Wakefield, whose two wins so far have already exceeded the gloomiest preseason predictions, are at Saints, who should not he Sheffield tomorrow night.

Australia hang on despite the Pauls

Australia New Zealand

BRADFORD'S HENRY Paul was forced off with a neck injury near the end of a fascinating Test yesterday in which he and his brother, Rohbie, had given New Zealand an excellent chance of beating Australia, writes Dave Hadfield, But despite the Bulls' pair helping them dominate for long periods, the Kiwis came out second best in the Anzac Day Test at the Olympic Stadium in

Paul was injured in a tackle by Gorden Tallis three minutes from the end as the Kiwis strove to equalise. The Bradford Bulls player was due have X-rays last night to determine the extent of the injury after inspiring a courageous Kiwi effort as they went down 20-14 to Australia at the Olympic Stadium.

"I thought we had them on the rack several times but we just couldn't put them away," Frank Endacott, the New Zealand coach, said. "We're getting closer to them all the time hut we're still not there yet."

Robbie Paul struck the first blow, taking an inside pass from Stacey Jones to give New Zealand a shock lead after only two minutes.

Henry Paul, playing hooker, added the goal and could have created a second try if support had arrived in time when he made a thrilling break from a tap penalty. Instead, Australia's defence held firm despite New Zealand have the majority of possession and they equalised before half-time when hrilliant passes from Laurie Daley and Darren Lockyer opened the way for Wendell Sailor

They took the lead early in the second half when Brad Fittler's kick caught out three defenders and Darren Smith came through to touch down. Logan Swann hit back for the Kiwis, but unlike Mat Rogers, Henry Paul could not convert, his kick coming back off the post.

Bryan Fletcher's storming run set up Fittler for a try that put the home side clear but New Zealand responded through Lesley Vainikolo, before Rogers' fourth goal gave Australia their

"This is a side loaded with talt hut they showed plenty of grit," Australia's coach Chris Anderson, said. 'It was probably The other side without a nol our greatest performance

noi our greatest performance but we're still winning." AUSTRALIA: Lockyer Saito: Daley, Smith, Rogers: Pittler, Langer, Webke, Johns, Lazarus, Tallis, Kearns, Smith, Substitutes used: Sing, Price, Kosef, Fietcher, NEW ZEALAND: Bametz Hoppe, Talau, Wilo, Vainklook R Paul, Jones, Vagana, H Paul, J Lowrie, McCracken, Cayless, Swann, Sub-stitutes used: Kidwell, Rus. Hermansson, Swan.

Gulliksen's glory ride Roberts' lap puts

GEIR GULLIKSEN got the better of a long-standing friend when he defeated John Whitaker in vesterday's international speed contest, one of the supporting classes for the three legs of the World Cup final which is being decided in the Scandinavium here this weekend.

> The Norwegian's success (albeit in a relatively minor competition) was the realisation of an ambition that he has held since coming to the Scandinavium as a apectator and autograph collector some 22 years ago. His victory was the he followed these instructions first for Norway in this arena. to the letter. With his flapping

based with the Whitaker family in Yorkshire for about six months. Yesterday he walked the course with John Whitaker - whose clear round on the nifty chestnut mare, Foxhill Butter-

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Deroit 1 Boston 0; Caldand 4 Cevetand 1: Tampa Bay 1 Balti-more 0; Turouto 8 Anaheim 7: Texas 6 Min-nesota 4; Seattle at Chicago White Sox (posponed).

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Colorado 8 San Fran-cisco 5: New York Mets 4 Cincinnad 1; Hous-

AMERICAN LEAGUE

1000

EQUESTRIANISM BY GENEVIEVE MURPHY

in Gothenburg

fly, was the best until Gulliksen went flat out on Baltimoor "We hit the right spots everywhere." the delighted Norwegian said.

Whitaker, who frequently works through Gulliksen when huving or selling horses, also gives him advice on show jumping. "I'm always too keen, John tells me, to keep it smooth," the Norwegian said.

It would be untrue to say that Back in 1979, Gulliksen was elbows, Gulliksen was hardly poetry in motion - hut he nevertheless won by a margin of 1.47sec and no one in the City of Gothenburg could have been happier.

On Thursday evening, John

Whitaker was naturally disappointed with his two mistakes in the first leg of the World Cup final on Virtual Village Grannusch, which had left him

back in 23rd place.

"It has been very tough for

He thought that the first problem oo the difficult distance into the double at fence 11 was partly rider error ("I was going for three strides instead of four") hut he could not pin-point the reason for hitting the first part of the double at fence 13.

Grannusch, who won the first two legs of the World Cup final a year ago, was expected to be the better of the two British horses on Thursday evening. However, show jumpers can be unpredictable and it was Michael Whitaker's mount, Virtual Village Ashley, who got off to the better start when making his only error at the last of the 14 fences for 15th place.

Doohan in shade

KENNY ROBERTS Jnr followed MOTOR CYCLING his season-opening win in Malaysia last weekend with the fastest time in yesterday's first qualifying session for the Japanese 500cc Grand Prix.

With rain forecast for today, when the final qualifying takes place. Roberts' fastest lap of 1:50.826 could prove good enough to put his Suzuki on pole position for tomorrow's race at

"I really wanted to get a time in that would be good enough for the front row," the American said. "As soon as I did this lap time I felt that was OK and after that I went into race instead of qualifying mode and started to work on testing different things." Michael Doohan, the de-

fending champion, was second

GREATER GREENSBORD CHRYSLER CLASSIC (NC): Leading first round scores (US unless stated): 65 J Parnovik (Swel, 66 OHan, 5 Lowery 67 R Freeman, J Furyk, 68 F Funk, 5 Murphy, C Beckman, R Medi-

quickest on a HRC Honda in 1:51.153 while Spain's Carlos Checa, on a Yamaha, was third and John Kocinski fourth fastest, also on a Honda.

Roberts, the eldest son of the three-times 500cc champion Kenny Roberts, surprised some last weekend when he took Suzuki's first 500c win in four the oew Motegi twin-ring track. years, relegating Doohan, Australia's five-times champion, to fourth place.

However, the 25-year-old, who switched to a rejuvenated Suzuki team after last season on his father's Modenas, had impressed in winter testing and again looked a cut above the rest yesterday with the only time below 1:51,00 on the 4.8-kilometre track.

Rowe in hungry mood

MARTIN ROWE will start the Pirelli International Rally in Carlisle today knowing he has BY JON WILDE made the perfect start to the defence of his Mobil 1 British Championship title. However, the Renault driver

was not satisfied with the way he launched the new campaign at last month's Vauxhall Rally of Wales. Rowe could have done no more in championship terms than collect the maximum 32 points on offer as he again proved himself the man to beat among the two-litre class competitors. But his performance in the Welsh forests was only good enough for second place overall, with David Higgins winning the event in a Subaru which is not eligible for

the main championship. Rowe admits that taking an instant lead in the title race would have been all the sweeter if he had been stood on the

top step of the podium in Wrexham. The 27-year-old from the Isle of Man is keen to extend his advantage in the quest for the domestic crown by outpacing all his rivals in Cumbria this week-

"I was relieved to come out ahead of my championship rivals in the first round of my title defence," said Rowe, whose team-mate Tapio Laukkanen was his closest challenger in event because everyone was Pirelli. But I want an overall victory as well as to win the Formula 2 Category this time."

days of action each comprising outset.

a separate round of the championship. Rowe won the first leg to extend his winning sequence to three consecutive events in the series. The second leg went to the Seat driver Gwyndaf Evans, who is unhappy that the double-header format has been scrapped this year.

Evans is also not in favour of every round in this year's championship contributing to a competitor's points tally. The Weishman preferred the previous scoring system in which drivers discounted their worst result. He has already hecome Wales. "It was a very rough a victim of the new method failure to finish in his home being hit by punctures, and it event left Evans 32 points hecould be the same again on the hind his arch rival Rowe. In fact. the Rally of Wales was a disaster for Evans and the whole Seat team, as they suffered Last year's Pirelli event was mechanical problems with all a double-header with the two their four cars virtually from the

SPORTING DIGEST

BASKETBALL NBA: Arianta 106 Boston 94; Philadel phia 104 Decroit 96; Miami 75 Oriando 70; San Antonio 103 Dallas 76. 70; San Antonio 103 Datida 70.
THURSDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Enrolongue Plani Foor tearnament: Final: Zalgiris Kaunas (Lin) bt Kinder Bologna (Ir) 92-74, Talind place play-off: Olympiakos Finalis (Gr) bt learnsystem Bologna (Ir) 74-63.

GREENALLS SPRING MACERLOO (Black-pool) Fifth redack G Telford (Sale) bx F Smalles (Keiphley) 21-7; G Wilson (Oldharri) bx A Dad-son (Sheffield) 21-14; R Rinchen (Halfraxt bx H Hargrasser (Blackburn) 21-16; M Telford (Sale) bx J Half (New Mills) 21-16; M Telford (Sale) bx J Half (New Mills) 21-16. CRICKET

PANNII TROPHY Fixed (Bengalora): Karnataka 304 (V Bharadwa) 86. S Somasundar 70: H 5 Sodil 5-79) and 75!. Madhya Pradesh 379 (5 Sahu 130, 0 Bundela 79, 0 Garesh 5-103) and 150 (A Ali 47, Bharadwa) 6-24). Karnataka woa by 95

EQUESTRIANISM WORLD CUP FINAL (Gotbenburg): In-ternational Speed Contest: 1 Boltmor (G Gullksen, Nor) 54 91sec 2 Foulill But-terfly (J Whitakec 66) 56.38. 3 Vink Idal-co (E van der Vieuten, Neth) 57.36.

FOOTBALL Dinamo Bucharest and Steaua Bucharest received home bans from the Romanian FA yesterday. Dinamomust play their next two First Division games at least 60km from the capital and Steau must play one away because of crowd crouble at their Romanian Cup semi-final on 14 April.

because of crowd crouble at their Romanian Cup semi-final on 14 April.
MATHONIMIDE POOTBALL LEAGUE:
Rearranged fluctures: The 27 April.
York v Blackpool; Halifax v Sundrope: Port Vale v Watford, Thu 29 Apri. Northampton v Wigan. Mos 3 Many: Cresterfield v Northampton (3.0). The 4 Many: Norts County v Macclesfield; Dorlington v Exter.
This 6 Hary: Swansa v Cambridge Uto.
HUINGARY SOULAD (International Friendly v England, Budapest 27 April): Goallweper: Kiraly (Heriha Betlin). Babos (MTK Budapest). Defenders: Some (Brisco Cry). G Morson (Gyor ETO). Hrutka (Naiserslautem). Dragouser (Foruna Colognel Macquis (Ferencianos), Szekares (Ulpest). Midfielders: Somogyl (Gyor). Dardal (Heitha Berlin). Halinal (MTK Budapest), Ules (MTK Budapest). Pisont (Eintrocht Frank-hurt). Forusards: Esth (Ulpest). A Norsos (Ulpest). Hercaeg (Ulpest). Dombi (Debrecen), Egressy (Dosgyor).
THURSDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Eeropean Cap-Milmers' Cap Semi-finals second leg: Lazio o Lokomoth Moscow (1-1 on oggregate. Lazio win on owey gods rule). Real Mallorat I Cheise o (Real Moliciata win 2-1 on aggregate.) Mationwilde Conference Chellenham 3 Yeoul 2 (Chellenhom promoted). Forest Green 2 Morecambe 2. Rysham Laague Premiur Division: Surron Uto 5 Aloes shot ((Sui-

ton promoted to Notionwide Conference]; St Albans 1 Outwich 1, Hendon 1 Harrow Borough 2: Chesham 3 Bromley 1 First Division: Romford 2 Worthing 1 Leatherhead 0 Wealdstone 1, Dr Martens Langue Premier Division: Cambridge City 1 Bath City 1, Micliand Division: Paget Pangers 0 Cleedon Town 3: Solihuli Boro 3 N C Wortwick 2 Utilisport United Counties Lengue Premier Division: Cogenities 1 St Neots 0 Themeets Highland Lague Cop: Bora Rangers 1 Wick Academy 0, Fost William 1 Clachnacutdin 1 Nacionad Lengue of Irreland Premier Division: Dundalk 0 Ctt 2: Alexanders Combination First. ate. J Maggert; 69 J Kelly, O Paulson, N Lan-caster, T Herron, E Aubrey, K Triplett, O Ure-sti, C Warren, T Purdy, T Lehman, C Perry. ICE HOCKEY

NHL STANLEY OUP First round play-off's (best-of-seven series); New Jer-sey 3 Pitisburgh 1 (New Jersey Jeod series 1-0); Bulfalo 2 Ottawa 1 [1-0]; Boston 2 Catolina 0 (1-0); Philadelphia 3 Toronto 0 (1-0); Dallas 2 Edmenton 1 (1-0); Deltolf 5 Anahelm 3 (1-0); St Louis 3 Phoenia 1 (1-0). Rangers I Wick, Academy O, Foll Winlam O Cachnacuddin 1 Nacional League of Ireland Premier Division: Dundaik O UCD 2. Associansarase Combination First Division: Wycombe O Cambridge Urd 3. Jowson Eastarn League Premier Division: Lowestoff 4 Newmarket 1 loberlink Express Midland Alliances Rocester 3 Oktobury 1. UniBond League Premier Division: Leigh RMI O Fourcorn O First Dhislose Burscough 1 Radcilife Borough O. Alfreton Fown 1 Huchail Iower 2 Uniffing First Division: Unifing First Division Cup Final: Droylscen O Ashipor Urd 1 Unified Suspect County League First Division: Wich O Hassocks 3 North Western Trains League Flood-fit Trophy Final: Rickson West I Amost Division: Lowestoff 4 Newmarket 1 Amost Division: Bangor Ciry 1. Postins League Premier Division: Brimlingham O Derby O, Man Urd O Leepool 1, Sooks 2 Aston Villa 1 First Division: Man City 2 Port Villa 3. Pannere O Snell Wed O Third Division: Epsom 6 Ewell 3 Clapton 0 MOTORCYCLING JAPANESE SOOCC GRAND PRIX (Tokyo): Opening practice session times: 1 K Roberts (US) Suzuki 1:30.826; 2 M Doornan (Aus) Honda 1:51 152: 3 C Creca (Sp) Yamaha 1:51.332; 4 J Kocins-to (US) Honda 1:51.353; 5 M Blaggi III; Yamaha 1 51.439; 6 A Barros (Br) Honda 1:51 636; 7 R Latoni (Fr) Yamaha 1:51.646; 8 T Okada (Japan) Honda 1:51.785.

RUGBY LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL MATCH (Sydney) Australia 20 (6) New Zeeland (6) 14-Australia: Tries Salior, Smith, Fittler: Goals Rogers, 4, New Zeeland: Tries R Paul, Swann, Valnikolo: Goal H Paul. (35 000)

SUPER 12 (Dunedin): New South Wales Waratans 23 Otago Highlanders 15.

Germany's Katja Seizinger, one of the most successful women racers

RUGBY UNION

SKIING

in the history of Alpine skiing, an-nounced her retirement yesterday.

1) have decided to finish my studies and to try my luck in a normal working life." the three-times Olympic champion sald yesterday.

THURSDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Craven Shield: Ipswich 43 Peterborough 47, Pre-mier League National Trophy: Swindon 49 Workington 40

TENNIS

ATP TOUR EYENT (Orlande, Fla) Men's singles second round: H Gamy (Arg) bt J Stottenberg (Aus) 7-6 7-6; J Courier (US) bt G Blanco (Sp) 7-5 6-4; C Ruad (Nor) bt L Arnold (Arg) 3-6 7-5 6-2; M Mimyr (Bela)



Certain exclusions anniv - Motorall, Sienners, Eurostar, ferry services, season tickets and

THE SWEEPER

BY CLIVE WHITE AND NICK HARRIS



New deal? News to me, says Coppell

when the Crystal Palace chairman, Mark Goldberg, addressed a

gathering of fans and reassured tbem over the future of the financially troubled club. Goldberg said his manager, Steve Coppell, had signed a new five-year deal. This was about the only thing he said all night that was applauded by the majority of the audience, who had had to pay £5 for the privilege of hearing the extent of their club's troubles. But wait, Yesterday's Croydon Advertiser ran a beadline saying "Coppell: I have not signed a fresh deal." In the article Coppell was quoted as saying that he has had his current contract since Terry Venables left in January and there was nothing new about it. "I don't have a new five-year contract," he said. On the task of trying to pick a team each week, when the future is in the balance, he added: "It is pointless really. I bave no control whatsoever over who comes in or who goes from the football club.

Fans have also been wondering how many of Monday's audience were either bodyguards for Goldberg - it was later revealed that his administrators had insisted on a team of walkie-talkied minders being placed strategically around the hall - and how many were pro-Goldberg stooges. At one point, a "fan" asked: "Are Mark's problems only the same as iprevious owner] Ron Noades's? Is Mark not just being more honest?" The truth-seeker was recognised. bowever, as a Palace official who had the temerity to throw The Sweeper's representative out of the club's training ground recently. Having made his point from the back of the hall, the questioner retired to a box occupied by other Goldberg supporters.

AFTER LAST Saturday's experience when Gordon Strachan paid the price for not having suitable cover for goalkeeper Magnus Hedman when the Swede injured himself early on, it David Burrows, are anything to go is a rair bet mat the Covenity r ager will give veteran Steve Ogri-

ALL WAS not as it lagging behind John Burridge as the seemed on Monday, oldest Premiership player on record - unless, of course, Strachan were to give him a two-year contract.

Burridge set the record when an injury to Tony Coton gave him the chance to turn out for Manchester City against Queen's Park Rangers in their last game of the 1994-95 Premiership season at the age of 43 years, five months and 11 days. Ogrizovic will only be 42 in September, but he has been a great servant for the club, overtaking George Curtis's record number of League appearances last season and now standing at 504.

He would almost certainly have made his 505th appearance last Saturday had he not been injured. When Hedman suffered a hip injury Strachan was reluctant to pit 17year-old Chris Kirkland into the fray

SONG SHEET The Cheltenhan Town theme tune 66 We can't read and we can't write, But that don't really matter. And we can drive a tractor. h Asar, Occoh Asar. 99

and as a result Hedman was beaten by a tame shot from Vladimir Kinder in a 2-1 borne defeat to Middleshrough which threw the Sky Blues back into the relegation melt-

been cracking the whip at Real Madrid since his team's 5-1 thrashing by championship contenders Celta Vigo a fortnight ago with tough, militarystyle training sessions which may not go down too well with Steve McManaman, if comments from his former Liverpool team-mate,

dream, but he will have to get used to the different ways of operating over there. He likes his freedom and spare time and over in Spain they train three times a day sometimes. It will be interesting to see how be copes with things like that." Well, he surely didn't think be would not have to work for his £14m, did he?

LEE MILLS, the proliflc Bradford City striker who took a fearful slagging off recently in the Port Vale programme on his return to the club. is the not the first Vale Park old boy. it would appear, to suffer from the author's poison pen. In an earlier Vale programme it was said of Dutchman Rogier Koordes after he had been released by the club: "He often looked as if he'd struggle to find a place in a Sunday League team full of middle-aged beer hellies whose pre-match warm-up is a

fag and a pint of Peddy." Of the departed Swede Jan Jannson it was said: "He seemed to have a fair-weather playing policy and his regular injuries were more often than not baffling to medical science. He was a bit like a Jaguar XJS, a fast designer car with great control but expensive to keep running and frequently unreliable.

Just what the two foreigners had done to invite such bite is not known. At least Mills had given cause for resentment with his parting shot: "Three years at Vale Park is enough for anybody." At recent home games the local fanzine. Vale Park Beano, has invited fans to sign a letter supporting the club's views on Lee Mills. "I think a tot of fans would agree with the article in the JOHN TOSHACK bas match programme." editor Dick Mills (definitely no relation) said.

> IT'S NICE to be remembered. At Stoke's last home game, the winner of the balftime draw received his prize from Eric Skeels, who still bolds the record for League appearances at the Potteries club -506 from 1958-76.

"I'm pleased be's going to introduced the legendary Stoke zovic the 12-month contract Spain rather than Italy or any- figure by saying, "And bere to extension be seeks. Contrary to re- where else, because the quicker make the award is ... Eric Sykes." ports, however, Oggy would still be tempo of the game will suit him. What a Carry On.

AS YOU WERE



AS MANCHESTER UNITED stay on course for their "historic treble" it's worth remembering that another British side has already gone one better, with a memorable four-timer 32 years ago. In 1967, Celtic won the Scottish League title, the Scottish FA Cup and the Scottish League Cup, and then crowned their year with a European Cup victory over Internazionale. They effectively secured their place in the European final with a 3-1 win over Dukla Prague in the semi-final first teg. The second leg's 0-0 scoreline did little to dampen the spirit as the players, including Bobby Lennox. Bertie Auld and Bobby Murdoch celebrated (above). Jimmy Johnstone (second from right), scored twice in the first leg.

THE PRICE IS RIGHT

going to be hard to know who to root for in the Uefa Cup Final

on Parma (the 1-2 favourites we've 100-30) or Marseilles (the 6-4 unthe European Cup final. Man- thrown in to boot.

WHAT A dilemma. It's chester United (the 4-6 favourites we've backed at 9-2) have simply got to beat Bayern Munich at the Nou Camp while, in the Cup-Winin Moscow next month. ners' Cup final at Villa Park Lazio Should The Price Is Right cheer the 1-2 favourites we've backed at 6-1) must beat Real Mallorca. backed at "Burlington Bertie" Meanwhile, despite last week's reverse, we reckon we're pulling into Easy money. Things are admit- so we're going for a big trebles' Manchester United (9-4); Sheffield tedly somewhat more clear-cut in spread with a fun four-timer Wednesday to draw with Chelsea

SWEEPER'S PUSH FOR PROMOTION

E LIBERO WAGER

(35 x £1 trebles with Stanley): Blackburn to draw with Liverpool (12-5); Everton to draw with Charlton (9-4); Leicester to draw with Coventry (9-4); Tottenham to draw with West Ham 112-5); Wimbledon to draw with

FUN FOUR-TIMER (E1 four-timer with Stanley): Aston VIBa

to beat Nottingham Forest (4-11); Southampton to win at Derby (13-5); Arsenal to win at Middlesbrough (5-6); Sampdoria to draw with Lazio (2-1). ORIGINAL BANK: £100.

CURRENT KITTY: £150.07! TODAY'S BETS: £39.24 (inc. tax).

MASCOT ON THE MAT

Name: Paisley Panda. Club: St Mirren.

Appearance: A 6ft panda. Crime sheet: Paisley Panda's troubles stem almost entirely from his behaviour at derby games against the Saints' deadliest rivals, Greenock Morton. Inside the Panda lurks an amiable chap called Andy 1"best not to use my sur-

name"), and in the first derby this season, be taunt-

ed the Morton fans with a scrubbing brush and soap and a jaunty chant along the lines of "what a bunch of soap dodgers." Harmless enough you'd think, even when he went as far as chasing a Morton player shouting: "You need a wash." As Andy said this week. "It's not meant to offend anyone." In the most recent match between the sides, he continued his theme, bringing onto the pitch a giant "magic tree" air freshener, with which he taunted the opposition fans. They were not best pleased, and Andy confirmed this week that he will now officially be investigated by the Scottish FA following a police caution. Eat your heart out, Cyril the Swan. In mitigation, your Honour: Paisley Panda is a Love Street favourite, nimble on his feet, not bad at baltetic poses and generally regarded as a cheeky but loveable rogue. Not that it washes with Morton fans. MY TEAM



CHELSEA

Sky sports "Soccer AM" presenter
"My dad used to sit and watch Chelsea on television
and I just thought it was a manly thing to do. It was around 1970 and Chelsea were big at the time. I grew up in Middlesex and all my friends were Chelsea fans too. Because of lack of recent success my best memory is the 1997 FA Cup final. It was great that Di Matteo scored so early on, it meant it was a relaxing experience unlike most FA Cup finals. Although most of my beroes are the current side, who are a great bunch of lads, I still remember Joey Jones, Butch Wilkins and Mickey Thomas. I bonestly believe we can win the League this year but if we don't, then a Champions' League place is a must."

Interview by Paul Attfield

IN T'NET

Found on the Web: FC Bayern München THE WEB bome of Manchester United's European Cup final opponents has a section called "Foundation", which reads, rather tantalisingly: "Is that what Franz John imagined when be founded FC Bayern 97 years ago on 27 February 1900 in the Restaurant Gisela, together with eleven friends - that he was creating what was to be Germany's most successful football club! And just because in the 1879 Munich MTV club the main emphasis was on gymnastics, rather than on the then despised 'kicking around." Head to this site for extensive news and features, including "Neudecker era" and "From Heynckes to Hitzfetd." There's also information on the Olympic Stadium in Munich and the players, as well as a fairly comprehensive statistics package. http://www.sports.de/fcboyern/english/index_eng-

SEEN BUT NOT BOUGHT

AS REAL MALLORCA fans might say to the Chelsea team: "On yer bikes, lads." And what a choice they have. The Chelsea FC cycles are priced between 2169.99 and 2249.99 for the mountain models and the smaller BMX versions (are you watching, Dennis Wise?) are a snip, at between £90.00 and £150.00.

THEY'RE **NOT ALL DENNIS** BERGKAMP

Unsung foreign legionnaires No 36 RODNEY JACK: The 27-year-old St Vincent international striker joined Torquay on a free from Lambada, St Vincent in October 1995. He proved to be one of the most exciting players in the Third Division in 1996-97, scoring 10 goals in 33 League appearances. He added 12 more in 40 appearances the following season. Newcastle and Sunderland spotted his talent and went as far as inviting him to train with them. Neither could offer him a job. Rodney signed for Crewe in July last year, but was unavailable for this season's opening games as his work permit was delayed. "I see it as a step in the right direction," the player said when joining Crewe, whose only direction now appears to be down. "I just want to go there and perform." He scored both goals in a 2-0 Worthington Cup win over Otcham, and although be's since netted several more times, be's drifted in and out of cootention.



Welsh 'Martyrs' surviving against the odds

I HAVE noticed over the last 20 have developed a healthy hayears or so that our supporters tred for the enemy choir. have a tendency not to sing or chant, except for a few enthu- by nature. That is the recent lot

volume. This may sound surprising, given that we are a Weish club, but generally the singing gets left to the rugby supporters. Our poor performance in this area serves to increase my irof travelling away fans who come and stand near my usual spot on the half-way line, singing and chanting what at the time sound like taunting and insulting attacks, but which, when I return to the cold light of day. I realise is harmless nonsense. However, during the game my irritation grows

Martyrs by name. Martyrs

siastic young teenagers who of fans of Merthyr Tydfil AFC find it difficult to achieve much of the Dr Martens (Southern) League Premier Division. The club's nickname, the Martyrs. is based on the fact that the town is named after Tydfil, a fifth century Christian martyr But in recent years the club supporters have been martyrs ritation with vociferous groups themselves, due to a series of events which have constantly threatened the club's exis-

Merthyr Tydfil is unusual in that it has, for the last 80 years. been a football oasis in south Wales, where rugby union is traditionally king, and is still the premier spectator sport. After the Second World War the degradually until, by half-time, I funct Merthyr Town were reFAN'S EYE **VIEW**

MERTHYR TYDFIL BY JOHN STRAND

formed as Merthyr Tydil AFC. In the following eight years the club won the Southern League five times, a record unsurpassed since the war. Eventually the good times came to an end, with the club alternating between the divisions of the Southern League for the following 30 years, although the club attracted many fine players towards the end of their careers, such as John Charles, Tommy Hutchison, George Wood and Bob Latchford.

title was captured once again, along with the Welsh Cup. There followed a memorable. narrowty tost, European Cup-Winners-Cup tie with the Italian side Atalanta. Several years were spent in what is now the Nationwide Conference, where a consistently enjoyable high standard of football was the norm. During this period there was a determined but unsurcessful attempt to force Merthyr to play in the League of Wales, which still collectively pulls in less fans than any

In recent years things have dramatically declined. We have changed owners more than most clubs change managers. We have had four owners in a large band of supporters to -assuming you still have a club.

one of the top clubs in the Con-

Success returned in the less than four years, with three Penydarren Park a few weeks 1980s. The Southern League managers this season alone. This has been accompanied by relegation back to the Southern

At last, however, the club is in the "money." A new consortium has rescued the club. It has the backing of a wealthy businessman, who originates from South Wales, and the new Chairman is Lyn Mittell, a Merthyr Tydfil show-business ranalih wbose stage nam is Owen Money. There is a feeling among

Martyrs fans that the new owners will have the appropriate commitment. The early signs are good. The first game after the announcement of the takeover was against the runaway league leaders, Nuneaton Borough. They brought

ago. outnumbering us. A larger group than usual stood nearby and started the usual arrogant and taunting chants. All we could manage was a half bearted "Come On Merthyr."

However, the unexpected happened and we led 1-0 at half time. Another goal followed, with the Martyrs dominating the second half. As always, the most enjoyable effect for me was the alleneing of the Nuneaton choir. We even managed to extend the chant of "Come On Merthyr" to 80 per cent of our supporters, to drown out any remnants of the Nuneaton singing. After recent events this enjoyable result was a reminder that, if you are patient in football the good times will come around again

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

There's still more to come from this team. They have yet to reach their peak. Alex Ferguson, Man Utd manager, after his side's victory over Juventus.

As arrogant as Ferguson is, his team are splendid and divine in equal measure. Tuttosport', Italian paper, after United's victory.

Zidane doesn't like Turin? He misses the sea? He'd prefer Barcelona or Marseilles? He can go where be likes, so long as he goes. He doesn't deserve to stay. Tuttosport', on the

Juventus midfielder I have even taken drugs in

the dressing-room 20 minutes before a match. I started the match on speed and ended it on crutches. Martin Neil, of Berwick, on

don't win this year. World Snooker Champi-

would be a better place. Charles Barkley, of the Pippen was arrested for

drunk driving.

48 1 10 St. St.

TODAY

120724

his drug problem. I will be a bitter man if I Jimmy White, before his first-round defeat at the

onships to Alan McManus.

This is not Armageddon. It happened. If all kids grew up to be like Scottie, the world NBA's Houston Astros, on the outcry after team-mate



'I will play on' insists Vialli

Chelsea's leader is swift to counter speculation over his dual role after defeat in Europe. By Steve Tongue

day putting a hrave face on a manager"-had lead to spec-defeat in the European Cup-ulation that he would do just Winners' Cup semi-final hy Real Mallorca and trying to end confusion about his own role by pushed Ruud Gullit to the brink insisting that he would continue playing as well as managing the

There was widespread surprise when Vialli's name did not suit. Yesterday, however, he even appear on the list of seven Chelsea substitutes before a 1-0 defeat in Palma on Thursday night put them out of the competition on a 2-1 aggregate. He had previously kept his hest efforts this season for Cup competitions, scoring nine times in 11 games, but drawing a hlank tute. I'm not the sort of player in each of his seven Premiership matches.

There was not an orthodox striker on the bench as Chelsea on as a substitute. I'll have to tried to retrieve the goal headed in by Leo Biagini after marking at a set-piece.

Vialli's comments immedi-

GIANLUCA VIALLI was yester- better if I concentrate on being

times it's demanding, but it's always exciting. If you want to be a good manager, you have to realise it's difficult being part of all games. "I don't like being a substiwho can come on and turn a match. I need to be on for 90

sometime because I can't play 15 minutes, following slack till I'm 37 or 38. But I want to play next season, definitely."

that as early as next season. The Chelsea hierarchy, having 14 months ago with their demands that he do the same, would presumably have had no problem with Vialli following said: "I've got no problems carrying on with both roles. Some-

minutes. I rarely score coming start thinking about quitting

Vialli felt that the run of the ately after the game - "I was not ball did not favour his team on fully match fit. Sometimes it's Thursday, when in the last 20



مكذا من الملصل

Gianfranco Zola cuts a lone, dejected figure in the aftermath of Chelsea's elimination by Real Mallorca in the Cup-Winners' Cup Empics

minutes Argentina's goalkeeper Carlos Roa touched Roberto Di Matteo's powerful drive on to the bar and Dennis Wise failed to put the bite on Mallorca with a soft header.

The damage, however, had been done at Stamford Bridge, where for the third time in four

bome legs Chelsea failed to con- mean defence and swift coun- row, just the sort of game to sort necessity to pre-qualify for their vert an abundance of scoring opportunities. Against the limited Scandinavian opposition provided by Helsingborg and FC Copenhagen they managed only a single goal, leading to un-

only chance they created in 90

Now Vialli must pick up his "chaps" with immediate effect. while Real, renowned for their Sheffield Wednesday tomor- 1955, hut would avoid the a season's work.

terattacking, were allowed a out which of them have the draw and an away goal from the heart for five more battles this season. A hig haul of points could yet earn the runners-up position, which would not only be Chelsea's best finish apart starting in the Premiership at from the championship year of them to third place and ruining

first shot at the Champions"

If a mood of self-pity takes hold, the priority will become to prevent Leeds, who are five points behind, from beating

Redknapp denies part in Storrie exit Lazio 'tranquil'

HARRY REDKNAPP has insisted he is not responsible for the West Ham board's decision to terminate the contract of their director of football, Peter Storrie.

Storrie will leave Upton Park at the end of this season and be replaced by the Sheffield Wednesday secretary, Graham Mackrell, who will assume the

There have been suggestions that Storrie's exit is the result of differences between himself and Redknapp. The pair had a public row after the Hammers won at Derby earlier this season because Andy Impey was being sold to balance the books against the manager's wishes.

However, Redknapp said

today: "Peter and I get on absolutely fantastically and to suggest otherwise is absolute nonsense. We have had one argument in six years working together, and I am very disappointed that he will be leaving the club.

told me the news yesterday. It is stricted to permit-holders. the chairman's decision because of the club, and this has got nothing to do with the Andy Impey business. We were going back out socially with our wives two days after that all blew up.

"Peter has been great for

emy and he has backed me and my staff all the way." Hammers striker Paolo Di

Canio has been fined £900 after a row with an Italian traffic policeman. The case dated back to June 1997 when Di Canio was visiting Terni, his wife's home town,

captain, However, he stressed that he is keen to stay with West Ham, and I am sorry to see Spurs, where he started his ca- age and everything to do with and I don't need to move."

strengthen the squad. The 24-year-old England

necessarily anxious away legs,

defender, coveted by some of Europe's leading clubs, began neextending his contract, which has two years to run. However, it is thought Camp-

club's ambitions match his own Today, the Hammers travel before signing a new deal, and he wants to change the structure across London to White Hart he is keen to see Tottenham Lane where talks between Tot- huild on their success after wintenham Hotspur and Sol Camp- ning the League Cup this seabell about a new contract have son. "There are a few problems hit a snag, according to the club on the table which we've got to sort out," he said. "It's all about the right pack-

I broke into the side six years ago. We had a great team the first time Jürgen Klinsmann was here, but that side broke up gotiations recently about at the end of the season, which was not good.

"Hopefully this time it won't Winners' Cup semi-final on be the same. You've got to keep Thursday failed to provide it. Il is waiting to see whether the your core side and add to it, as all the best teams do. You've got for a European final for the secto keep the ball rolling, not take pieces away.

"Tve got two years left on my contract so a lot of things can happen. We're moving in the right direction and if we keep doing that, we'll see how it goes, I'm from London, I enjoy Ithere

championship secured a fortnight ago before two consecutive defeats and two straight victories for Milan threw the race wide open again. The Rome club had to cope with nuriously undermined by the presmerous absences in defence ident of football's world last weekend as they slumped to a 3-1 loss to Juventus, and governing body, Fifa's Sepp Blatter, who is at the tournament should recover all hut the sus-"The World Youth Champi-

onship has worked but there is a quantum leap between that and the World Cup," said a senior Fifa official, who cited the shortage of hotel heds, poor communications facilities and

him go. He played a major role mestablishing our youth acade mestablishing our youth acade mestablishing our youth acade Graham, receives funding to season I've had at the club since as Milan close IF LAZIO were looking for a

morale booster after the two worst weeks of their otherwise BY GIDEON LONG triumphant season, their Cup-True, the Romans qualified

ond consecutive year, but the way they did it - on the away goals rule after a soporific 0-0 draw in the second leg at the Olympic Stadium - can have done little to convince their coach, Sven Goran Eriksson, that his side are truly in line for trophies this year. Lazio appeared to have the

pended Alessandro Nesta.

However, it is the level of team morale which most worries Eriksson before tomorrow's live Channel 4 game against Samodoria in Genoa. travel to Udinese, Bologna, Swindon Town, 40 miles away The biggest threat to his team Fiorentina and entertain Parma and now their closest League is the creeping self-doubt after on the last day of the season.

ITALIAN PREVIEW

taking just one point in their last three games and seeing Milan "Physically we're OK and osychologically we're reasonably OK. I'm not worried and I'd still be ready to bet on us winning the title," said the Swede.

"Everybody keeps saying that Milan are favourites, but I think we are. We're top of the table today, just as we were a few months ago. The only thing that's changed in the last two weeks is the size of our lead. We're only at risk if we lose our sense of tranquillity. Otherwise there won't be a problem because we have the best team."

"For a whole month we can concentrate solely on the we afraid that Milan are right on our heels? No, fear doesn't exist in football.

Lazio's visit to struggling Sampdoria is arguably the easleague matches. They then

Cotterill savours a champion party

Cheltenham look to future after winning League place. By Phil Shaw

AS THE morning after the night before broke over the Cotswolds, bleary-eyed and sore-throated Cheltonians pored over their newspapers to make sure it had not all been a delirious, drunken dream. After 107 years of habitual under-achievement, Cheltenham Town really had won promotion to the Foothall League.

None of the 6,150 people who packed Whaddon Road to its capacity on Thursday will quickly forget the identity of the player whose header deep in stoppage time defeated Yeovil Town and clinched the Nationwide Conference championship for Cheltenham. With his surname, Jamie Victory was probably destined to score the winner. It said much about the mayhem of the final moments and the party which fol-lowed that his fellow wing-back, Michael Duff, was adamant be had applied the decisive touch.

Confirming that Victory had officially been credited with the goal, the Cheltenham manager, Steve Cotterill, put the friendly dispute into perspective. "Who cares who scored it?" the former Wimhledon striker said yesterday. "All that matters is that we did it."

The 34-year-old Cotterill, who is Cheltenham-born and bred hut hased in Bournemouth, finally left the celebrations at the cluh at six o'clock in the morning. He fell into bed at his parents' home at 6.30, only to be awoken at 8.0 by his excited daughters. Cheltenham, who visit

Hayes today, will have played six matches in 15 days before taking their leave of the Conference at home to Welling next Saturday. Only then will Cotterill start planning for next season, but he intimated that his squad. which includes a window-fitter, fitness instructor, mohile-phone salesman tory and the captain. Chris Banks), will go full-time. Cheltenham were in the

Southern League, which provided their only previous title in 1984, when Cotterill arrived from Sligo Rovers 27 months ago. Promoted only because the champions, Gresley Rovers, could not satisfy the Conference's stadium requirements, they promptly finished runners-up to Halifax Town and won the FA Umhro Trophy last season.

Cotterill, who was not joking when he said he expected "the freedom of the city", is confichampionship," he said. "Are dent Cheltenham can hold their own at the higher level. Average crowds of 3,000 demonstrate their potential, though they may have to fend off interest in their ambitious jest of their five remaining manager who came close last autumn to landing the job at

Japan meet Spain in a surprise package two years ago hut now they are land in the first round. They the 2006 World Cup bave been se-

A NEW name will be inscribed BY DAN MASTERS on the World Youth Cup today when Japan and Spain, who have surprised even themselves by getting so far, meet in the final. Spain reached the final 12 years ago when they lost out pect to get this far." to Brazil by a single goal, but Japan's appearance is the higgest turn-up the tournament has seen since Qatar reached the 1983 final before going down 4-0 to Germany.

in Lagos

"I am proud of my players," said Japan's coach, Philippe Troussier "Of course I didn't ex-

His Spanish counterpart. Inaki Saez Ruiz, who described the idea of reaching the final as unthinkable a month ago, said the supposed underdogs will be tough opponents. "We met them

they simply ran around a lot."

who collected a second yellow semi-final win over Uruguay. Japan have knocked out Portugal, Mexico and Uruguay as well as claiming victories over ons, Brazil. the United States and Eng-

more balanced, they are tech- have only three First Division nically good." he said. "Before, professionals in their team and are missing five top players who The Asians will miss their were prevented from travelling suspended captain, Shinji Ono, hy the Japanese federation because they did not get he-

card for time-wasting in the 2-1 patitis B vaccinations in time. Spain began the tournament with a well-deserved 2-0 win over the three-times champi-

Nigeria's hopes of hosting

transport problems in Nigeria. WEEKEND FIXTURE GUIDE AND POOLS FORECAST

am v AFC Totton; Whitchurch a Cowes: Wirnborne v Brockenhurst.

TENNENTS HIGHLAND LEAGUE CUP:
Petethead v Keith: Rothes v Fraserburgh: Buckle Thistle v Cove Rangers:
Hundy v Deveronvale: Losslemouth v Elgin City: Naim County v Forres Mechanics: Brora Rangers v Clachnacuddin; Wick
Academy v Fort William. WELSK NATIONAL LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION PLAY-OFF GROUP A Neath v Pontypridd

GROUP B Bridgend v Caerphilly

Bridgend v Caerphilly

Newport v Aberavon

First Division: Aberrillery v Pontypool;
Bommaen v South Wales Police, Cress Keys

V UWIC (Cardiff Inst); Maesteg v Llandovery; Merthy v Rumney; Newbridge v

Dunwant; Tondu v Blackwood; Tieorchy v

Trodeau;

Chatham). South League Four: Buck-inghamshue v Hertfordshue [3.0] for Bietchley). Somerset v Eastern Counties [3.0] (at Bridgewater).

PEPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Royal Navy

TENNENT'S VELVET BOWL Duns v Garnock (11.0).....

TENNENT'S VELVET SHIELD Gordonians v Jed-Forest (12.45) ... AIB LEAGUE Semi-final: Garryowen v St Marys. Second Division: Ballynahinch 5t Marys, Second Division: Ballynahinch v Dolphin, Derry v Wanderers; Malone v Old Crescent; Portadown v Greystones;

HOCKEY EHI. Play-off first leg: Surbiton v Houn-slow (1.0).

slow 11.0).

INTER LEAGUE Play-offs: Pererborough
flown v Edgoaston (2.0): Whitchurch v
Formby (2.30).

WOMEN'S CUP & PLATE Semi-floats;
EH Cup: Slough v Cheimstord Highway
(2.0), Fyftes Lekester v Olton Torraquest (4.0). EN Plate: Hampstead & Westmuster v Bournemouth (10.0); Eddingson
v Deeside Ramblers (12.0) (at Million
Reynes National Studium)

REPRESENTATIVE GAME: hish Uni-REPRESENTATIVE GAME: Itish UniWELSH WOMEN'S CUP Semi-finate: Swarsea v UWIC (11.0); Penarth v Colwyn Bay (1.30). Plates semi-finates: cownorm v BSC (9.0); Haverfordwest v Howardians (4.0) (at Sophia Gardens, Cardiff) BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL LEAGUE Championship Finals: First Dhilsion: Plymouth v Teesside (8.0). Second Dhilsion: Birmingham v Tounton (3.0). Taird Dhilsion: Hull v North London (1.0). Momen's First Dhilsion: Sheffield v Thams Valley (6.0) Second Dhilsion: Plymouth v Wandsworth (1.0) (of Guidford Spectrum).

OTHER SPORTS GOLF: Scottish Women's Strokeplay (or

MOTOR RACING: British Raily Cham-pionship: Prelli International Raily (of Coruste), British Superbile Champi-onship: Ovalifying round jot Outon Park).

SNOOKER: Embassy World Champi-onship (at The Crucible Theorie, Sheffield)

TOMORROW FOOTBALL

FR CARLING PREMIERSHIP Leeds v Manchester Und (11.30) Sheffield Wednesday v Chelsea (4.0)

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION erhampton v West Bromwich (1.0)

BANK OF SCOTLAND SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE Rangers v Aberdeen (6.05)
FAI HARP LAGER Nacional League Promier Division: Cora City v Shelbourne (2.0); Derry City v Fins Harps (3.15); Waterford v Bray Wanderers (3.15).

terford v Bray Wanderers (3:15).

Dr MARTERS LEAGUE Southbara Division: Havant & Waterlooville v Witney.

SCREWITH DIRECT LEAGUE Premier

Division: Bideford v Brislington; Elmore
v Bristol MF.

RUGBY LEAGUE 3.0 unless stoled JJB SPORTS SUPER LEAGUE Gateshead v Salford ...

RUGBY UNION ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP ONE

Newcastle v Gloucester (3.0)

[3.0].
TETLEY'S BITTER COUNTY CHARPIONSHIP South League One: Devon v
Gloucestershire (2.30) (at Barnstaple).
AIB LEAGUE Semil-final: Cork Coresitution v Buccaneers (2.30).

HOCKEY

EN CUP Semi-finale: Cannock v Southgete (2.0); Old Loughtonlans v Reading (2.0).

(2.0).

RAF CARREERS YOUTH CUP Finals: Under-14s: Millfield v Dean Close (11.30).

Under-16s: Havant HC v Simon Langton GS (1.15). Under-14s. Repton v Millfield (3.30) (of Milton Repts).

WELSH FINALS: Men's Cop Final: Wiltchurch v USC Swanses (3.30). Men's Plate Pinal: Neath v UWIC (11.0).

Women's Cup Final (1.0). Women's Place Final (9.0) (or Sophia Gardens, Cordif).

OTHER SPORTS ATHLETICS: BUPA Great Caledonian Run

(at Balmoral Castle). GOLP: Scottish Women's Strokeplay (at MOON; MOTOR RACING: British Superbike Championship (of Outon Park).
RALLYING: Pirelli International Raily (of Cartisla)

SNOOKER: Embassy World Champi-onship (at The Crucible Theorie, Sheffield).



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TODAY FOOTBALL

3.0 unless stated NATIONWIDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

aristol City v Birmingham Huddersfield v Barnsley 10 Muddersheld v Barnsley
11 Ipsysich v Crewe
12 Oxford Utd v Norwich
13 Portsmouth v Stockport
14 Portsmouth v Stockport
16 Portsmouth v Stockport
16 Swindon v Grimsby
16 Tranmere v Port Vale
17 Wetford v Crystal Palsce
18 Bournemouth v Bristol Rovers
19 Bournemouth v Chesterfield
19 Fulham v Wresham

i Manchester City v Wycombe ... Millwall v Preston 4 Millwall v Preston
5 Northampson v Colchester
5 Norts County v Luton
7 Ordnam v Gillingham
1 Stoke v Burnley
1 Wigan v Reading

BANK OF SCOTLAND SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE 40 Dundee v Klimarnock
41 Ounfermine v Dundee Utd
42 Motherwell v Hearts
43 Rangers v Aberdeen... *Postponed
44 St Johnstone v Celtic

SECOND ONISION

East File v Arbroath

Oueen of South v Clyde
Sorling v Livingston
THURD DIVISION
Albion v Berwick
East Stricting v Cowdenbeath
Montrose v Ross County
Oueen's Park v Brechin
Stenhousemul' v Oumbarton
NATIONIVIDE CONFERENCE

Famborough v Hednestord
Hayes v Chettenham
Hereford v Rushden & Diamonds
Kingstonian v Forest Green
Northwisch v Yeovit
Southport v Leek Town
Stakenage v Kidderminster
Telford v Doncastet
Welling v Morecambe

- Welling v Morecambe

RYMAN LEAGUE Premier Division:
Aylesbury v Aldershot Tri. Basingstoke v Stough: Boreham Wood v St Albers. Bromley v Chesham: Carshalton v Billericay Tri. Dagenham & Redbridge v Hendon; Dulmich v Gravesent, Enfield v Hampton: Harrow Borough v Purfheet: Heybridge v Bishop's Stortford; Walton & Hersham v Sutton Urd, Prist Divisions Berkhamsted Town v Bognon Regis Town; Carwey Island v Chertsey Town; Grays Athledt v Whyteleafe; Hitchin Town v Peading; Leatherhead v Leyton Pennant; Maidenhead Urd v Croydon; Moresey v Ovford City, Staines Town v Barton Rovers; Urdindge v Braintree Town, Wembley v Romford; Worthing v Wealdstone. Seened Divisions: Abhigdon Town v Tooding & Mitcham; Banstead Achiede v Witham Town: Edgware Town v Thame Urd; Hernel Hempstead v Chalfont St Peter; Martow v Hailow Town, Met Police v Wokingham Town; Windsor & Evon v Hertford Envir. Whenhoe Town v Narthwood. Taled Divisions: Aveley v Flackwell Heath; Dorking v Lewes; Egham Town v Cheshunt; Hornchurch v Clapton; Kingsbury Fown v Ford Urd; Southall v Coninthibury Town v Ford Urd; Southall v Conint

an Casuals: Tilbury v East Thurrock Utd. Ting Town v Croydon Athletic. Ware v Ep-som & Ewell: Wingate & Finchley v Cam-berley Town. berley Town.

UNIBONO LEAGUE Premier Division:
Emley v Colwyn Bay; Frichley v Galnsborough; Lancaster v Hybe Utd; Leigh RMI
v Chorley, Runcorn v Accrington Stanley,
Whitty Town v Spernymon: Winsford Utd v
Stalytordge, Worksop v Gulseley, Firsts
Division: Belper Town v Bradford PA,
Farsley Celtic v Burscough. Filtrion v
Droylsden: Great Harwood Town v Alfreton Town; Harrogate Town v Gerna.
Lincoln Utd v Witten Abion, Mattock Town
v Trafford: Netherfield Rendal v Ashton
Utd. Radcliffe Borough v Eastwood
Utd. Radcliffe Borough v Eastwood

v Trafford: Netherfield kendal v Ashton Urd. Radcilife Borough v Eastwood Jown; Stocksbridge PS v Congleton Town: Whitley Bay v Huckhall Town lown; Stocksbridge PS v Congleton Town; Whitley Bay v Hucknall Town DR MARTENS LEAGUE Premier Division: Bath City v Tarmvorth: Bromsgiove v Weymouth; Cravley Town v Atherstone; Dorrhester v Gressley Powers, Grantham v Ring's Lym; Halesower v Hastings: Illeston Tn v Gloucester City: Merityr v Boston Utd; Nuneaton v Pothwell Town. Salsburyv Burton Abbon. Worcester City v Cambridge City Southern Division: Bashleyv Baidook Town; Chelmsford Gity v Tonbridge Angels, Darriford v Corby Town: Enth & Belwedete v Andover; Fleet Town v Ashford Town; Folkestone Invicta v Brackley Town. Maigate v Newport (IoW); Raunds Town v Havant & Waterloowille; Sitchgbourne v Cirencester Town; St Leonards v Witney Town; Yate Town v Fisher Arhletic London. Midland Division: Biliston Town v Weston-super-Maie. Blakenall v Newport AFC; Cinderford Town v Reddirch Uld; Moor Green v Sutton Coldfield Town; Paget Rangers v Bedworth Utd; RC Wai wick v Stafford Rangers; Solihull Boro v Stepshed Dynamo; Stamford AFC v Bloowich Town, Stourbridge v Hinckley Uld, VS Ruggy v Clevedon Town. Wisbech Town v Evesham Uld.

Urd.
INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND
FDOTBALL ALLIANCE: Barwell v
Knypersley Victoria. Bridgmorth Town v
Oldbury Urd. Chasetown v Boldmere St.
Michaels, Halesowen Harners v Stratford
Town: Pershore Town v Shifnal Town,
Stapenhill v Rocester, West Midlands Police v Sandwell Borovgh. nce v amoveu Borovgh.

ARNOTT INSURANCE NDRTHERN
LEAGUE First Division: Bedlington
Terners v Bullingham Tovin. Billingham Synthonia v West Auckland. Chook Town v
Dunston Repearation. Essention v Travi Nav.

v Marpeth Town: Shildon v Chester Le Street: South Shields v Guisborough Town NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE

NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE First Division: Glossop North End v Workington: Leek CSOB v Marine Poad, Mossley v Vaundail GM. Nantinikh Town v Holker Old Boys, Newcastle Town v Ramsbottom Urd. Rossendale Urd v Clithetoe, St Helens Town v Afterton Col-leties: Salford City v Pressor Cables WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE Premeer Division: Erith Town v Thamesmead Town: Faversham Town v Bed-enham Town, Herne Bay v Tunbrudge Wells, Hyme Urd v Slade Green, Lordswood v Deal Town; VCD Arthetic v Greenwich Borough, Whitestable Town v Canterbury City LEAGUE Premier Division: Boston v Potton, Bourne v Stortoid: Desborough v Buckingham: Ford Sports v Spalding: N Spencer v Eynesbury: 5 & L Corby v St Nects, Woolton v Cogenhoe.
UNUET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE
Have Telesboar Chickens of Comments.

Graph Sober County Ladde
First Division: Chichester City v Eastbourne Fown: Easthourne Utd v Saltdean
Utd (2.0), Haisham Town v Wick, Pagham
v Littlehampton Town, Redhill v Selsey,
SCREWFIX ORECT LEAGUE Premier
Division: Bideford v Bridgott, Bridgewater Town v Westbury Utd. Brislington
v Yeovil TR: Caine Town v Backwell Utd.
Firmore v Bishon Sutton: Paulton Rovers Elmore v Bishop Surton; Paulton Fovers v Barnstaple Town; Taunton Town v Chip-penham Town

penham Town
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST Premier
Dhision: Arnold Town v Seiby Town, Denaby United v Gartorin Town;
Glasshoughton Welfare v Liversedge,
Maltby Miv Buston, North Femby United v Pontefraci Cols Ossett Albion v
Armthorpe Welfare, Plakering Town v Hallam: Staveley MW v Ossett Town, Thackley v Eccleshill Urd.
TEMPOR POOTBALL LEASUE Premier

Academy v Fort William.

SMURNOPF IRISM LEAGUE Premier
Division: Ballymena v Glentoran:
Cirtorville v Newry; Coleraine v Glenavor;
Crusaders v Linfled; Portadown v Omagh
Town. Hrst Division: Ards v Larne, Balpickar e v Distillery; Carnek v Linnavady Utct:
Dungannon Swifts v Bangor.

EAGUE OF MALEN

JJB SPORTS SUPER LEAGUE London v Warrington (6.30) RUGBY UNION 2.30 unless stated ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP ONE

tey v Eccleshill Urd.
JEWSON FOOTBALL LEAGUE Premier
Division: Bury Town v Ipswich Wanderers, Diss Town v Halstead Town Fellissrowe v Woodbinde Town Geni varmouth
Town v Stowmarket Town, Hatwich &
Parleston v Fakenham Town Soham
Town Rongers v Gorleston, Sudbury
Town v Walton Urd Sudbur v Wanderers
v Newmarket Town, Warboys v Lowestoft Town, Wrowham v Maidon Town
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: Bemerton
Heath v Downton, Christchuch v Hamhe ASSC, Eastleigh v East Cowes, Fare-ham v Bournemouth Gosport v EAT-Lymington & New Milton v Portsmouth RN Moneyfields v AFC Newbury, Thatch-

Dungannon Swifts v Bangor.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth v Barry
Town (2.30); Bangor City v Conwy
(2.30); Carmarthen Town v Haverfordwest
(2.30); Holywell v Cwmbran (2.30); Ine
Leardiff Cable-lel v Rhy; Newcown v
Connah's Quay (2.30); Rhayader Town v
Caeisvvs (2.30); TNS v Caemar fon Town
(2.30).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Bath w West Harriepool (3.0)
Bedford v Northampton (3.0)
Sale v Leicester (3.0)
PREMIERSHIP TWO

Wakefield v Moseley [3.0]

TETLEY'S BITTER COUNTY CHAMPIDNS-HP North and Midlands League
One: Worwickshile v Cumbria [3.0] (of Rugby] North and Midlands League
Theo: Dutham v Cheshire (3.0) (of Darhagron); Norinumberland v Lancashile
(3.0) (of Syston); Stalifordshile v North
Midlands (3.0) (of Lichfield). South
League Three: Leicestershire v North
Midlands (3.0) (of Lichfield). South
League Three Berkshire v Oxfordshile (3.0)
(of Reading): Sussex v Comwall [3.0] (of
Worthing) South League Three; Hampshile v Middlesex (3.0) (of Bosingstoke),
Nent v Dorset & Wilts (3.0) (of US

Barnes has to fight one last battle

The former Liverpool legend is happy to help Charlton strive against the drop but has one eye on his future. By Clive White

CUP FINALS, rather than rele- wouldn't like to manage a team gation dog-fights, is what a pedigree performer like John Barnes has been about all his career. It is tempting to suggest that that would still bave been United player not chosen to go on loan to struggling Charlton Athletic until the end of the season, but the truth is it is unlikely he would have got much of a look-in in Ruud Gullit's FA Cup final squad, and at 35 he still wants to play.

The Addicks gave him the

opportunity to do so, and hesides be had the pleasure - if that's the right word - of one more day out at Wembley last season when Newcastle lost to Arsenal. Instead he has opted for end-of-season hassle by becoming the biggest name to pull on a Charlton sbirt since Allan Simonsen 17 years ago. Barnes' stay is likely to be about as brief as the Dane's but, one hopes, relatively speaking, less costly. Indeed, it might prove to be

extremely rewarding for Charlton. Since his arrival, Barnes has found it as difficult to get into Alan Curbishley's starting line-up as Gullit's but, when he has dooe so. as at Upton Park recently, be has brought a steadying hand and a sense of order to Charlton's midfield maelstrom. This wise old bird could be particularly useful to Charlton at Goodison Park today, where there are likely to be more than a few headless cbickens running around. If nothing else, be ought to feel at home on Merseyside, where he enjoyed so much success as a

"We're into a cup final situation of our own now - four of tbem, to be exact," said Barnes. "We have to try to win this one on Saturday and then the next one, against Blackburn, and so on. The pressure of going for a championship ton can hang in there the playand the oressure of trying to avoid relegation is exactly the same - you have to handle it if you want to succeed,"

He bas been impressed particularly with how the Charlton manager has handled it, although be does not believe that the experience he has had in his short time at The Valley has added anything in terms of bow be believes he will evenstruggling against relegation," he said. "But the manager here is excellent. He doesn't convey any of the pressure that he obviously must be feeling. Everyone's relaxed in training."

For a man who has played with the likes of Kenny Dalglish and Alan Hansen, Barnes is genuinely appreciative of the qualities of his fellow professionals at the club. "The spirit is fantastic," he said.

They're a good, bonest buncb of lads who work hard for each other and they're very fit, one of the fittest group of players I've played with. Keith Jones' work-rate and fitness for a 34year-old is amazing, but that's something all the Charlton

Barnes knows. however, that effort alone may not be enough if Charlton are to get that first toebold that is so crucial to a prolonged stay in the Premiership. Curbishley has been promised £10m in the summer to spend on new play-

'If the choice was to carry on playing or just manage at a club. I would choose to manage'

ers. but that, of course, is dependent upon them still being in the Premiership. As Barnes remarked, the future looks strong with a healthy youth system ("Scott Parker, an England Under-20 player, looks an excellent prospect") and the reserves top of the Combination.

"The first year is always the nardest in the Premier League." Barnes said. "Wim- chances, you're going to head the years have gone by. If Chariers will gain from an extra year's experience, they will be able to bandle the situation better when they go away to big stadiums like Anfield and Old Trafford. If they can do so, the

future looks good for them." The bome defeat to Tottenham on Tuesday, when they scored first, was a bitter blow, to be doing next season. "I should have won and probably of years about how I want to was to carry on playing or just ropean Cup final in midweek because we weren't in it," be

would have done had Paul Mortimer not slipped as be took a second-half penalty, hitting the post with his shot. But then it wouldn't be Charlton if they

didn't do things the hard way. By rights, they ought to be dead and buried by now after eight consecutive League defeats in mid-season, yet here they are going into the closing stages of the season still clinging to the slender hope of survival. It was ever thus with

And, of course, everyone, well everyone not associated with the relegation struggle. wants them to succeed, like the former Chief Constable of Warwicksbire, who wrote in to commend the club on the behaviour of their youth players at a Manchester hotel in which he was staying recently. But then he was a West Ham supporter, which is tantamount to being family. A hooligan once remarked that there was no pleasure in setting upon Watford fans because it was like beating up your grandmother. Charlton are similarly inoffensive and no one wants to see them hurt by relegation.

Barnes expects a last-day-ofthe-season denouement though not if they defend like they did in the closing stages on Tuesday when the final goal in the 4-1 defeat was responsible for them dropping into the relegation zone. "The important thing for us at Goodison will be to try to silence the crowd in the first 20 minutes. frustrate both the team and the crowd by not allowing them too much of the hall," he said. "Against Spurs we sat back after we scored and I don't think you can play like that. You're hoping that for 90 minbledon have found it easier as clearances off the line. get block tackles in and end up win-

more likely to concede goals." By the sounds of it, while he each of the managers he has played under, he clearly does not appear to have picked up too much from Dalglish during their time at Newcastle when the latter's introverted tactics were in stark contrast to their the beels of Saturday's draw at the late 1980s. "Tve had very

ning 1-0. It bappens, but you're



may have picked up a little from By signing for Charlton John Barnes sacrificed the chance of playing in the FA Cup final

look at what options I have at choose to manage." the end of the season. The ideal scenario would be to be player-manager of Manchester United, Barcelona or Liverparticularly as it came hard on days together at Liverpool in pool but it's not going to bap- and attachment to the local tually manage, which he bopes home to Leeds, a game they strong ideas for the last couple long as I can but, if the choice chester United reach the Eu-

This could be his last club as purely a player and appropriately it reminds him of his first club, Watford, in its friendliness pen, I would like to play for as community. Watching Man-

his 10 seasons at Liverpool, due

to the ban on English clubs. "It serves no purpose to won the Champions' League in 1990 when I was at Liverpool

one peak he was never given pose to compare the Liverthe chance to conquer during pool team of '87 with the United team of today. For me to be where I am now, not just professionally hut personally, wonder whether we could have everything that happened in the past had to have happened and I'm happy where I am

SECOND DIVISION

English European hopes thwarted

BY JOHN NISBET

EUROPEAN FOOTBALL'S governing body, Uefa, yesterday thwarted English clubs' hopes of a fourth place in next season's Champions' League.
There had been reports that

a extra place would be granted if Manchester United were to win this year's European Cup final against Bayern Munich. But Uefa said that would only happen if Alex Ferguson's team finish outside the Premiership's top three - a highly improbable scenario.

A Uefa statement said: "The number of participating clubs from England depends upon Manchester United's final position in the Premier League. If Manchester United win the Champions' League final and also finish in first, second or third place in the Premier League, then three clubs from England would participate in the competition.

The League champions and runners-up would enter the first group stage directly and the third-placed team would play in the third qualifying round. However, if Manchester United win the final, but were to finish below third place in the Premier League, then four English clubs would qualify automatically in next season's Champions' League. Manchester United would qualify automatically as Champions' League title holders, and would be joined by the teams which finish in first, second and third place in the Premier League."

England are, however, still in contention to win an additional Fair Play place in the Uefa Cup. A Uefa spokesman said: "The top [Fair Play] country automatically gets a Uefa Cup place and there are also two more which will be decided by ballot in early June. At the moment there is a good chance that England might get one. The Fair Play place would go to the team who are top of the English FA's own Fair Play league. I understand that team is currently Sheffield Wednesday." England are currently second in the Fair Play rankings, between the leaders, Scotland, and Norway.

United and Bayern Munich will each receive 30,000 tickets for the European Cup final in said yesterday. The increase of 5,000 per team was announced after a meeting about security

агтаngements for the final. Uefa had said on Thursday that each club would receive only 25,000 tickets for the final , at the Nou Camp on 26 May. The original decision sparked protests from fans and fears about crowd trouble.

Jan Molby, the former Liv-erpool midfielder and Swansea City manager, will manage the Nationwide Conference club Kidderminster Harriers next season. The Dane will replace

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Burley keeps pressure at bay Uefa boost for

THE TENSION is beginning to grip as Ipswich Town and Bradford City set their sights on the second automatic promotion place behind the First Division champions, Sunderland.

Both clubs lost their nerve when they were beaten last Saturday, but the Portman Road club gained a three-point advantage on the men from Vailey Parade when they beat Stockport County 1-0 at home in midweek Even so, the Ipswich man-

ager, George Burley, is ready for the season to go to the wire as us then we will have to win our he prepares his side for the visit last three," Gradi said. "I of the bottom club. Crewe Alexandra, today. "It is still very tight," be warned. "With" only three games left, there is bound to be tension in the team, but it is nice to be in this position having to deal with that

BY ROB PARRISH

The atmosphere is just as tense at the foot of the table, where Crewe have kept battling to stay afloat. However, even their ever-optimistic manager, Dario Gradi, admits that defeat in Suffolk today could see his side surrender their First Division status. "If we win on Saturday, we

can maybe afford to lose one more game but if Ipswich heat haven't found any tension in the team yet. We all know what we've got to do."

The Bradford manager, Paul Jewell, is determined that the defensive errors which allowed Huddersfield to win 3-2 at Valley Parade last week will not be

"We've spent all week work-

the back four," Jewell said. "That was what we were doing earlier in the season and maybe we had got out of that habit bopefully that will solve the problem at QPR and we can take all three points to keep the pressure on Ipswich." The champions, Sunderland

will end Sheffield United's slim play-off hopes with a bome victory today, Sunderland's Stadium of Light will be included in England'a bid to bost the 2006 World Cup finals. The club confirmed vesterday that they have been informed the 42,000-capacity stadium will be among 15 included in the "A list" for the bid document.

Brentford, who are chasing

their attempt to share Loftus ing on defending from the front, Road with both Queen's Park through the midfield and to Rangers and Wasps rugby club oext season. The Bees have long-term plans to sell their Griffin Park home to property developers and build a new multi-sports stadium at Heston. near Heathrow airport, but now seem set to stay at their current

Carlisle United have been

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE in evidence at Queen's Park Rangers today.

By Rop Parkish "We're created by reserve to share Lefter their attempt the Lefter their attempt the Lefter their attempt the Lefter their attempt the Left ground for a while longer.

> granted special dispensation by the Football League to sign the Swindon Town goalkeeper Jimmy Glass on loan, despite the transfer deadline baving passed a month ago. Derby County have recalled Richard Knight from his loan spell leaving Carlisle without a senior goalkeeper as they seek to stave off relegation from the

KILMARNOCK WILL qualify for the Uefa Cup next season if they retain their current third place in the Scottish

Premier League. European football's governing body has been meeting in Tel Aviv. Israel, this week and has clarified the qualifying rules for next term's two club competitions.

Next season, the Scottisb champions go into the Champions' League qualifying competition, while the Premier League runners-up and the Scottish Cup winners go into the Uefa Cup.

It had been mooted that because Rangers and Celtic are first and second in the League and also in the Scottish Cup final - thereby taking two of the European spots - the los-ing cup semi-finalists might profit That prompted suggestions that Dundee United, who lost 2-0 to Celtic, and St Johnstone, beaten 4-0 by Rangers, might be offered a one-off play-off to determine Scotland's third European

Now, though, it has been a success and will now be exconfirmed that the thirdplaced Premier League team, currently Kilmarnock - with St Johnstone the only team capable of overtaking them - will take the second Uefa Cup place, A Uefa spokesman said: "There will be no play-off, because the teams in the Cup final are the same as in the top Dundee for a nominal fee.

SCOTTISH FOOTBALL

BY SIMON BUCKLAND two League placings, then the

tbird-placed team io the championship will take the cup position." Aberdeen could indirectly

benefit because of the complicated procedure of qualification through Uefa's Fair Play rankings. In January, Scotland led the rankings meaning, the team north of the border with the best individual ranking would also enter the Uefa Cup next sea-

Kilmarnock led that list at the last count but, should they make it automatically by finishing third, Aberdeen, the next highest club outside the Old Firm, are in line to be offered an unlikely place. The Scottish Premier

League plans to extend its winter shutdown to four weeks next season to allow for the Millennium celebrations. An experimental three-week break this term was deemed tended to incorporate virtually the whole of January 2000. The change means the traditional New Year Old Firm derby is likely to be switched to Boxing Day.

The Polish international midfielder Dariusz Adamczuk is poised to join Celtic from

ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH TABLES FA CARLING NATIONWIDE LEAGUE NATIONWIDE CONFERENCE

PRI	K OF	P			Н	A N	1
Rangers.	31	20	ě	Ļ	F	A	2
Celtic	31	20	2	2	50	-76	5
Kilmarma	4 31	10	.0	3	"		•
Kilmarno	CA3	19	11	ø	44	24	5
St Johnst Mothern	-W 31	13	10	.8	36	35	4
Aberles	31	ă	īΫ	:3	33	44	3
Aberdace Dundee	31	ž	- 4	!3	30	38	3
Dundee I	IN 31	3	- 4	13	44	55	3
Hearts	24					38	
1						47	
Dunfermi	ine31	4	15	12	23	48	7

FIRST DIVISION

Ravanelli fancies Fiorentina move FABRIZIO RAVANELLI, the for- given the great Turin club for there to know that I'm someone around £70m in his contract, in-

mer Middlesbrough striker, is selling him. desperate to return home to Italy so that he can seek revenge on another of his old clubs, Juventus.

The Italian international, currently with Marseilles but on those who sent me away in being linked with a move to Fiorentina, won the European Cup with Juventus in 1996 only weeks before being sold to Middiesbrough for £7m. He scored

· "Fiorentina's interest really pens, but joining them would enable me to take my revenge the first place."

Juventus and Fiorentina fans are traditionally deadly rivals and some in Florence would not welcome the arrival of a former 31 goals in his short stay the Juve player. But the striker Teesside club - but it now ap- said: "If I were to make it to Flo- Sanz, who said this week the only around £8m, which would pears that he has never for- rence one day I want everyone player had a buy-out clause of be a more affordable fee

makes me happy," he said. er that might be."

who gives everything they have for the team's colours, whoev-

In Spain, Real Madrid moved swiftly yesterday to slap down rumours of the imminent departure of Roberto Carlos. The Brazilian wing-back has been widely tipped to leave Real at the end of the season as part of a massive rebuilding

programme at the club. The Real president Lorenzo sisted he is not for sale. "Roberto Carlos is a Real Madrid player and we have no intention of selling him." Sanz said. "He is not available for transfer. There's nothing more to say."

His former club in Italy, Internazionale, have reportedly been leading the chase for the Brazilian, while Milan and Juventus have also been interested. His agent has insisted that the buy-out clause is in fact

- F 4 3 40. English

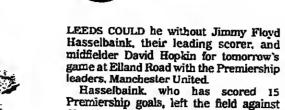
European hopes thwarted

Weekend guide to the Premiership



MATCH OF THE WEEKEND (TOMORROW, 11.30AM) Leeds United v Manchester United

Last season: 1-0



Chariton last week with a hamstring problem, and that is likely to lead to 18-year-old Alan Smith partnering the 20-year-old Harry Kewell up front in one of the youngest strike pairings to grace the Premiership.

Hopkin has an ankle injury and with Alfie Haaland on international duty with Norway. Gunnar Halle out (knee) and Bruno Ribeiro (knee) also struggling it could lead to a recall for Stephen McPhail. The midfielder has

BY WYN GRIFFTTHS

only just returned from Nigeria where he has been on Republic of Ireland duty in the World

Under-20 Championships.

After seven consecutive wins Leeds have drawn their last two matches and tomorrow is the start of a run-in that sees them play

all three teams above them in the League. Leeds have a good record against their arch rivals at Elland Road in recent years, winning three of the last four - the only loss in that time, 4-0 in 1996, effectively forcing the dismissal of Howard Wilkinson

In the last 10 years, four League games have ended goalless while in the fixture at Old Trafford in November David O'Leary's

themselves before losing 3-2.

Manchester United must squeeze six matches into the last three weeks of the League campaign and Alex Ferguson will have to make sweeping changes for the game which has an 11.30am kick-off. Ole Gunnar Solskjaer and Ronny Johnseo join Haaland on international duty with Norway, while Jaap Stam, Ryan Giggs, Paul Scholes and

Andy Cole are struggling with injuries. Stam has Achilles trouble, Giggs is still recovering from his ankle problem, while Scholes has a sore knee and Cole an ankle

The loss of Stam would he a huge blow to United as they are already missing two other

young side gave an excellent account of centre-backs, Johnsen and Henning Berg, who has a medial knee ligament injury.

Ferguson could turn to David May, who came on as a substitute against Sheffield Wednesday last week for his first taste of Premiership action this season, and Wes Brown, named on Thursday alongside Leeds' Jonathon Woodgate in Kevin Keegan's England squad for Hungary, or move Gary Neville

across from right-back.

LEEDS UNITED [Irom]: Martyn, Radebe, Wetherall, Wijnhard, Hasselbaink, Ribeiro, Bowyer, Hopkin. Granville, Kewell, Harre, Knarvik, Batty, Woodgate. McPhall. Smith. Jones, Robinson.

MANCHESTER UNITED (Irom): Schmeichel. G Neville, Irwin, May, Beckham, Butt, Cole. Sheringham, P. Neville, Curris, Blomquist, Giggs, Keane, Van Der Gouw, Scholes, Yorke, Nevland, Clegg, Casper, Brown,



Wimbledon's

recent years.

Joe Kinnear, whose

made his side the

clear 'south of the

Thames' leaders in

Average gate

10,952

sterling efforts have





Aston Villa v **Nottingham Forest**

Last season: no fixture

PAUL MERSON is standing by to start his first game for Aston Villa for more than a month. The England international, on the bench for the last five games, could be called upon to take over from Lee Hendrie as Villa seek to extend their unbeaten run to five games. Hendrie is struggling with an ankle injury while Alan Thompson is definitely out, with a hamstring problem. Villa have only lost at home to Forest once in their last nine meetings at Villa Park, 2-0 in October 1994.

Forest will be without no fewer than eight senior players. Ron Atkinson's men, who need to win at Villa Park to keep alive their slim hopes of Premiership survival, are unable to call upon the suspended trio of Carlton Palmer, Richard Gough and Christian Edwards. To make matters worse for Atkinson, he is also without Jon Olav Hjelde, Nigel Quashie, Geoff Thomas, Thierry Bonalair and Hugo Porfirio, who are all mursing injuries. The Norwegian defender Stale Stensaas is facing a late fitness test and Atkinson is likely to give winger Ian Woan bls first start of the season. Jesper Mattsson and Chris Bart-Williams are

also likely to return to the starting line-up.

ASTON VILLA (probable): Bosnich, Watson, Calderwood, Southgate, Wright, Merson, Tayfor, Draper, Stone, Joachim, Dublin,

NOTTINGHAM POREST, [from]: Crossley, Louis-Jean, Lyttle, Rogers, Stensaas, Cherte, Mattsson, Allou, Johnson, Bart-Williams, Woan, Van Hoofdonk, Freedman, Shipperley, Harewood, Darcheville, Beasant. nsions: Forest: Palmer, Gough, Edwards.



Blackburn Rovers v Liverpool

Last season: 1-1

BLACKBURN'S MANAGER, Brian Kidd will await last-minute fitness tests on Stéphane Henchoz, Christian Dailly and Gary Croft before deciding how to plug the gaps in his injury and suspension-hit side. First-choice left-back Callum Davidson serves a one-match ban, and with Jeff Kenna out for the season, Kidd has no other fully fit recognised deputy. Keith Gillespie is also suspended, but Kevin Gallacher is expected to continue his rehabilitation up front alongside top scorer Ashley Ward.

Liverpool are close to achieving two unwanted records as hey face 18th-placed Blackburn, Currently 10th, Gerard Houllier's side are in danger of their lowest top-flight finish since they were relegated in 1953-54. The current tally of just 12 victories this season threatens to be their worst in any division since 1954 - they need four wins from their last five games to avoid that record. The Anfield side are without Michael Owen, Robbie Fowler, Patrik Berger and Steven Gerrard today. David Thompson, injured in the 1-0 home defeat by Leicester on Wednesday, should have recovered from a calf problem.

BLACKBURN ROVERS (from): Filan, McAteer, Henchoz, Broomes, Taylor, Dailty,
Croft, Johnson, Dunn, Marcolin, Carsley, Wilcox, Dull, Ward, Gallacher, Davies, Blake,

INVERPOOL [Irom]: James, Song, Carragher, Babb, Matteo, Staunton, Bjornebye, Thompson, Ince. Redknapp, Leonhardsen, McManaman, Riedle, Oundee, Friedel. Kvarme, Ferri, Suspensions: Blackburn: Davidson, Gillesple, Referee: R Harris,



AND SCOTTISH TABLES

1

Derby County v Southampton

Last season: 4-0



DERBY SMIDFIELDER Stefano Eranio returns today to ease Jim Smith's lengthy casualty list after missing five weeks with a call injury. The Italian will be joined by goalkeeper Mart Poom and striker Deon Burton in making comebacks after last week's 5-1 thrashing at West Ham. Poom, less than fully fit with a hamstring problem, replaces Russell Hoult, who starts a threematch ban. Tony Dorigo is Smith's latest casualty, joining Igor Stimac, Vas Borbokis and Rory Delap on the sidelines.

Ken Monkou returns to strengthen Southampton's defence in place of the banned Claus Lundekvam. Matt Le Tissier is expected to recover from hamstring and calf injuries, while Latvian striker Marians Pahars is available to play after being granted permission to join up late for international duty next week. Mark Hughes has a back injury, while David Hughes faces a fitness test on a knee problem. David Hirst and John Beresford could both figure after scoring for the reserves in midweek, but goalkeeper Paul Jones and defeoder Richard Dryden will miss the remainder of the season with back and knee injuries. DERBY COUNTY (from): Poom, Prior, Carbonari, Schnoor, Laursen, Powell, Eranio, Bohinen, Burton, Sturridge, Beck, Wanchope, Harper, Christie, Jackson, Bridge-Wilkinson, Murray.
SOUTHAMPTON (from): Moss, Dodd, Monkou, Benall, Colfeter, Le Tissier, Marsden, O Hughes, Kachloul, Beattle, M Hughes, Ostenstad, Pahars, Hiley, Bridge, Monk.



Everton v **Charlton Athletic**

Last season: No fixture

ions: Derby: Hoult, Saines: Lundekvam.



EVERTON HAVE Nick Barmby available again after suspension and are also boosted by Olivier Dacourt's escape from an FA ban earlier this week as they prepare for today's crucial relegation battle at Goodison Park. Craig Short and Kevin Campbell have both shaken off knocks and should play as Everton strive for three successive League wins for the first time since October 1996.

Alan Curbishley, the Charlton manager, has an almost fullstrength squad to choose from with right-back Danny Mills available after suspension. Goalkeeper Simon Royce has started training after his injury lay-off hut is well short of match fitness and Andy Petterson will continue in goal. Centre-back Richard Rufus could be playing his last game of the season unless the club manage to overturn his ban for being sent off against Leeds last Saturday.

Joint leading scorer Clive Mendonca could return to the starting line up in place of either Andy Hunt and Martin Pringle with a lack of goals - just five in the last eight games - a major worry for Curbishley after Tuesday's 4-1 defeat by Spurs sent them back into the relegation zone.

Everton [from]: Myhre, Weir, Short, Warson, Unsworth, Ball, Barmby, Hutchson, Dacourt, Genmill, Jeffers, Campbell, Cadamarteri, Bakayoko, Grant, Oster, Degn.

ward.
Charlton Athletic (from): Petterson, Powell, Brown, Youds, Mills, Tiler, Rulus, Barnes, Bowen, Kinsella, Redfeam, Hunt, Pringle, Bright, Stuart, K Jones, S Jones, Mortimer, Konchesky, Parker, Barness, Salmon, Refer

...And statistics

Down and out down south

THE MOST sombre southern scenario would leave the six million people living in the eastern corner of England (south of the Thames) with but one Premiership representative next season: Mames) with but one Premiership representative next season: Wimbledon. Southampton, all season, and Charlton, since Christmas, have been fighting for their Premiership lives. Ten years ago. Four clubs from that corner of England – Millwall, Wimbledon. Southampton and Charlton were mid table in the First Division and about to be joined via the play-offs by Crystal Palace. The year before, Portsmouth had made a one season appearance in the top flight to recall their halcyon days of the immediate post-war years. rediate post-war years.

For all the wealth that is concentrated in the south-

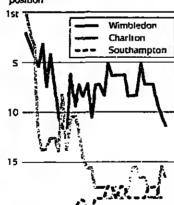
east, the smallness of the stadiums must be a hindrance to its football development. Charlton, Wimbledon and Southampton are in the relegation positions of the Premiership attendance table even though the The Valley and The Dell are regularly filled to capacity. And other regularly increases a property and the premiership acceptance of the premiership and the policy. grounds, modest in capacity, have room for more

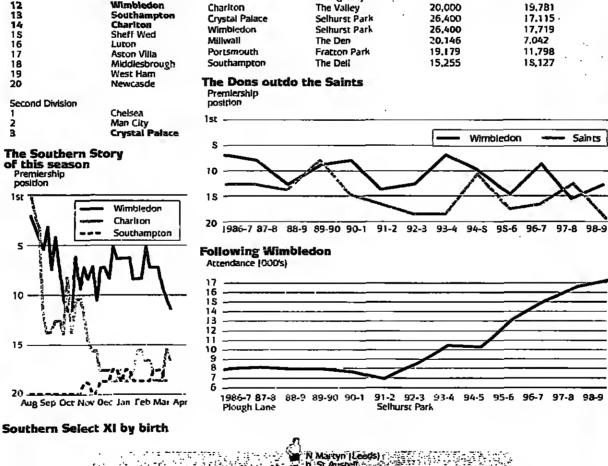
Southampton have been flying the southern flag for 21 consecutive seasons at the top level and were joined in 1986-87 by the wonder-workers of Wimbledon, Crystal Palace have given occasional support in the 90s. In only two of the ensuing seasons have Wimbledon failed to finish above Southampton. The Dons are also gaining fans, with average gates growing from 7,800 in 1987 to



Man Utd Sheff Wed Luton Aston Villa West Ham

The Southern Story of this season Premiership position

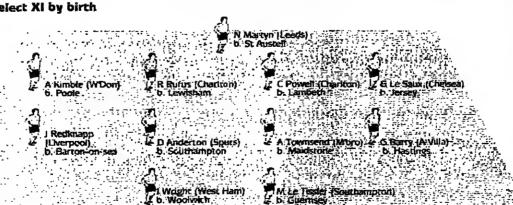




Seven post-war top flight southern sides

Ground

[Priestfield,



TOMORROW'S OTHER MATCH (4PM)



Sheffield Wednesday v Chelsea

SHEFFIELD WEDNESOAY will be without left-winger Petter Rudi for the first time in six months for tomorrow's match with titlechasing Chelsea. Rudi has been called away on international duty with Norway, which means Philip Scott looks likely to take his place for his first start since his £75,000 move from St Johnstone just before deadline day. Scott came on as a second-half substitute in midweek and scored the goal his first for the club - which gave the Owls

a point from a 1-1 draw with Newcastle. The Chelsea player manager, Gianluca Vialli, could return to lead the attack against Wednesday at Hillsborough after injury kept him out of the 1-0 Cup-Winners'

Cup defeat by Real Mallorca. He is now without Norwegian striker Tore Andre Flo. whose country have invoked Fifa's five-day international rule to make first claim on him for their Euro 2000 qualifier against Georgia on Wednesday.

Vialli, who says he still wants to keep playing next season at the age of 35, also has teenaged Finland striker Mikael Forssell available. Denmark midfielder Bjarne Goldback, who like Forssell was cup-tied for Chelsea in Europe, should also return to the starting line-up on Sunday.

England full-back Graeme Le Saux now serves a one-match suspension for his much-publicised argument with Liver-

pool's Robbie Fowler earlier this season. Le Saux also has an ankle injury after Thursday's game, but goalkeeper Ed de Goey has suffered no reaction playing against Real Mallorca with a broken toe and is set to continue at Hillsborough. Chelsea have won on their last two trips to Hillsborough and have only lost once in

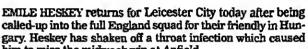
Six Premiership visits.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (from): Smicek, Atherton, Jonk, Newsome, Walker. Carbone, Booth, Scotf, Saneet, Cobian, Humphreys, Briscoe, Stefanowit, Hinchteilfe, Cresswell, Emerson, Alexandersson, Sonner, Pressman. CHPLSEA (from). De Goey: Ferrer, Lambourde, Leboeul. Babayaro, Or Matteo, Desailly, Ouberry, Perrescu, Wise, Poyer, Morris, Zola, Vlalli, Forssell, Goldbaek, Nicholls, Newton, Hichook (pt) ns: Cheisea! Le Sau.



Leicester City v **Coventry City**

Last season: 1-1



him to miss the midweek win at Anfield. Leicester's manager, Martin O'Neill, is without Roh Ullathorne (broken leg), while Gerry Taggart (hamstring) and Muzzy Izzet (hamstring) both face late fitness tests.

Coventry's manager, Gordon Strachan, faces the prospect of going into the game without nine of his first-team players. He will be definitely be without Roland Nilsson (ribs). Steve Ogrizovic (neck), Steve Froggatt (hamstring), and the suspended Noel Whelan and Gary McAllister.

Ther are also serious doubts over the availability of Paul Telfer who sustained a dead leg at Everton two weeks' ago, Magnus Hedman, who damaged stomach muscles in last week's defeat by Middlesbrough, and Trond Soltvedt and Marc Edworthy, who

oy intidutesorough, and Trond SoftWedt and Marc Edworthy, who were both hurt in training. The Belgian international Philippe Clement and Marcus Hall return to the squad. LEICESTER CITY (from): Keller, Arphead. Taggart, Sinclair, Walsh, Izzet, Lennon. Heskey, Parker, Guppy, Gunnlaugsson, Savage, Kaamark, Campbell, Miller, Elliott, Marshall, Fenton, Impey, Wilson, Cottee, Oakes, Zagorakis. COVENTRY CITY [from): Hedman, Breen, Shave, Williams, Burrows, Boateng, Solvedt, Huckerby, Aloksi, M Hall, Clemeni, P Hail, Gloacchini, Delorge, Konjic, Edworthy, Oulnn, Kirkland. ons: Coventry: McAlfister, Whelan. Referee: G Barter.



Middlesbrough v Arsenal

Last season: no fixture



MIDDLESBROUGH WILL be without Paul Gascoinne and Gianluca Festa for the visit of Arsenal. Gascoigne is out with a dead leg and Festa has a hamstring strain. Defender Gary Pallister and midfielder Keith O'Neill are both rated as having 50-50 chances of starting, after hip and thigh problems re-

Dennis Bergkamp is a major doubt for Arsenal. The Dutch striker, who bounced back from missing a penalty in Arsenal's FA Cup semi-final defeat last week to become their top scorer this season on 16 goals (with one of the five against) bledon), has a groin injury. He was substituted after 70 minutes on Monday and must face a fitness test. Nicolas Anelka. who was rested for the Wimbledon game, will return, if Bergkamp misses out, to partner Nigerian Nwankwo Kanu in attack. Rightback Lee Dixon returns after an ankle injury but centre-back Martin Keown is suspended and Steve Bould steps in. Bergkamp's injury casts a doubt over his evailability for the Netherlands' friendly against Morocco next Wednesday. MIDDLESBROUGH (from): Schwarzer, Beresford, Stockdale, Baker, Kinder, Vick-ers, Pallister, Cooper, Gordon, Summerbell, Maddison, Mustoe, Townsend, O'Nelll,

ers, railister, Coper, Gordon, Summercell, Maddison, Mustoe, Townsend, O'Relli, Ricard, Deane, Armstrong, Campbell, ARSENAL [from): Seaman, Ditton, Adams, Bould, Winterburn, Parlour, Vieira, Pentr, Overmars, Anelika, Kanu, Bergkamp, Vivas, Grimandi, Hughes, Garde, Diavvara, Box Morte, Lukic (gkt).

Suspension: Arsenal: Keown. Referee: M Riley.



Tottenham Hotspur v West Ham United

Last season: 1-0



THE TOTTENHAM manager, George Graham, has virtually a full squad to chose from as his side prepare for an assault on the Fremiership's top six. Les Ferdinand and Andy Sinton, however, will be rested today. Ferdinand's Achilles injury, which has kept him out of the last two matches, and Sinton's ankle injury, sustained in the FA Cup semi-final, are healing ahead of schedule. Both players are expected to be fit before the season comes to an end. Goalkeeper Ian Walker, omitted from Kevin Keegan's England squad to play Hungary next week, said yesterday: 'I'm happy with the way this season has turned out, considering I wasn't in the first team in August. Amazingly, I think this is the best season I ever had, and that is thanks to George Graham."

West Ham's Steve Potts is out for the season after suffering a knee injury in the Hammers' victory over Derby last week. His absence will give the manager, Harry Redknapp, a selection problem in defence. Marc-Vivien Foé and Neil Ruddock are suspended and Redknapp is hoping Rio Ferdinand pass-

es a suspensious and neuknapp is noping kilo Ferdinand passes a fitness on an ankie injury.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (from): Walker, Carr, King, Nilsen, Campbell, Taricco, Young, Freund, Sherwood, Nielsen, Fox, Dominguez, Clemence, Anderton, Iversen, Ginola, Armstrong, Baardsen (gk).

WEST HAM UNITED (from): Histop, Ferdinand, Pearce, Minto, Sinclair, Lomas, Lampard, Keller, Berkovc, Ot Cavio, Wright, Cole, Moncur, Lazaridis, Forrest, Abou, Holigan,
Suspensions: None.



Wimbledon v Wimbledon v Newcastle United Last season: 0-0



FALTERING WIMBLEDON must cope again without key defender Chris Perry as they search for their first win in eight games. Perry, who missed Monday's 5-1 defeat at Arsenal, has broken a bone in his foot and joins Wimbledon's lengthy list of casualties. The Dons were looking for their best-ever finish in the top flight before Joe Kinnear's illness, but with one draw and six defeats in their last seven matches, they are now not even realistically in with a shout to qualify for the InterToto Cup. Michael Hughes, Neal Ardley, Efan Ekoku and Jon Goodman are all out. Irish defender Kenny Cunningham has missed train-

ing this week but still bopes to be fit to play this afternoon. Newcastle will be without the long-term casualties Laurent Charvet (knee) and Duncan Ferguson (groin). French defender Didier Domi could be back in contention after missing the last three games through injury, and keeper Shay Given will return after being rested at Sheffield Wednesday in midweek, where an Alan Shearer penalty earned the Magpies a point from the

NEWICASTLE (from): Given, Harper, Barton, Griffin, Domi, Dabizas, Hughes, Benarali, Lee, Speed, Solano, Mark, Harnann, Ketsbaia, Shearer, Andersson, Pearce, Georgiadis, Brady,
Suppensions: None,
Balancel, Blacor,
Buspensions



United's toughest test is domestic

AS Manchester United luxuriate in their European Cup semi-final win in Turin, the paradox is that it will be easier for them to be champions of Europe than champions of England. The talk may be of trebles but the troubles are likely to come on the domestic front

One good performance against Bayero Munich on 26 May will make them rulers of the Continent but it is going to take six in the Premiership and as that includes trips to Leeds. Liverpool, Middlesbrough and Blackburn the title is by no means a foregone con-

That programme is arduous but if you had to pick a fixture most likely to trip them up last League defeat. Only Unit-

FOOTBALL

BY GUY HODGSON

then tomorrow morning's at Elland Road is the one. The bile for Alex Ferguson's team in Leeds is arguably more bitter said. "They're not liked bethan even that at Liverpool so if Roy Keane and co thought the atmosphere in the Stadio Delle Alpi on Wednesday was intimidating it will be nothing compared to this.

It would be a difficult fixture if Leeds were playing badly but they accumulated seven successive wins before heing beld to draws in their last two matches, and you have to go back to 6 Fehruary since their

ed and Arsenal have better

"Manchester United are a fantastic side," Jonathon Woodgate, the Leeds centreback who was called into his first England squad this week, cause they win a lot of things but hopefully we'll be like that in a couple of years. I love playing against the best players because you find out how good you are. I can't wait for the game to tell you the truth."

The bome team will be motivated but if Ferguson needs to gee up his players then he need only remind them of their reception at Manchester Airport in September when, by unbappy coincidence, the United

party flying to Munich bumped into Leeds fans going to Madeira. "You'd have thought we'd murdered their families." Gary Neville commented af-

lerwards.

By tomorrow United may be off the top of the table although, if they are. Arsenal will have become only the second side this season to succeed at the Riverside. History would suggest a draw because the Gunners have not won at Middlesbrough in their last four League visits while Boro have drawn more games than they

have won at home. Arsenal are also likely to be without their top scorer Dennis Bergkamp, who has an abdominal strain and has not

final defeat by United 10 days

"Without Dennis it's more difficult to score goals but at the moment all the other strikers are fit," the Arsenal manager, Arsène Wenger, said before paying tribute to Bergkamp's likely replacement. Nwankwo Kanu, "Since he has arrived be has improved a lot. What I like in his game is that he makes complicated situations look simple and he brings other

players into the game." Chelsea will be hoping both Leeds and Middlesbrough prevail because a season of much promise is suddenly looking barren and they require help from others if they can win the

trained since the FA Cup semi- one remaining trophy in their League wins for the first time sights, the championship. Still they are likely to find Sheffield Wednesday accommodating tomorrow afternoon if the limp

> While the true situation at top of the table will not become apparent until Chelsea finish that game, the clouded picture at the bottom of the Premiership should be clearer by som today. Nottingham Forest will be relegated unless they defeat Aston Villa at Villa Park while Everton should have put their relegation worries away for at least four months if they defeat Charlton at Goodison and record three successive

performance they put up at

Old Trafford last week is a

since October 1996.

With Southampton taking their lamentable away record to Derby, the time is ripe for Blackburn to earn themselves breathing space, particularly as they are meeting the team who are giving Forest the best run for their money in terms of bad

current form, Liverpool. On the same night that their great rivals were reaching their second European Cup final, Liverpool, four times champions of Europe, fell to their seventh defeat in their last 12 Premiership games and are hurtling towards two unwanted landmarks. Currently 10th. they are in danger of their lowest top-flight finish since they

were relegated in 1953-54 and their tally of just 12 victories this

Gerard Houllier, said of the

Clubs try to buy and shut Richmond

THERE WAS fun and games in the Allied Dunbar Premiership's bargain basement department yesterday as Bedford found themselves a new set of owners and Richmond swiftly rejected a hard-nosed - some would say cynical - manoeuvre by England's senior clubs to reduce the size of the league by paying off the their debts and closing them down. Any move towards a 12-team competition for next season now depends on whether another impoverished duo, London Scottish and West Hartlepool, can find ways of staying in business.

delays and threatened playe strikes, Bedford were breathing the fresb air of hope after confirmation that Frank Warren, the hoxing promoter, had sold bis 90 per cent sbareholding to Jefferson Lloyd International, a corporate consultancy with recently acquired interests in other sports, including football. The new owners, who were planning to address the players before this afternoon's home match with Northampton, intend to stay at Goldington Road and, local council willing, bring the ground up to 21st century speed.

"We're not in this for 12 months only, or as long as Bedford stay in the first division," said Gary Woods, an existing director who will sit on a new three-man management board. "It's a serious venture on our part and, while we're not chucking millions at the club, we're

RUGBY UNION

BY CHRIS HEWETT

committed to success. We're confident of staying in the top flight but, whatever happens. we'll work to keep the existing squad together."

Richmond, meanwhile, were "90 per cent confident" of generating sufficient new money by the end of next month to ensure a future for themselves in the professional game. Currently in administration following an abrupt decision by their major backer. Ashley After a harrowing season of Levett, to drastically reduce his high-profile resignations, salary investment, Richmond bave st over tive weeks to pied

together a rescue package. They know they are treading water in a shark-infested sea: English First Division Rugby, the powerful senior clubs' umbrella organisation, this week discussed the possibility of buying Richmond with a view to pulling the rug from under them. "We are fully determined to retain our independence," said Tony Hallett, the former Richmond chief executive who has coordinated the efforts of club lovalists to find new backing.

There were striking developments at one of Britain's richest clubs yesterday when Cardiff, now nearing the end of their season-long political battle with the Welsh Rugby Union, announced that Terry Holmes would vacate the Arms Park coaching job at the end of the season while only halfway

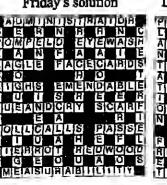


through a two-year contract. Northamptonshire's Matthew Hayden, Rob Bailey, David Ripley and Tony Pemberthy at a washed-out Hove yesterday

THE SATURDAY CROSSWORD

By Phi No.3905 Saturday 24 April

Friday's solution



Last Saturday's solution



ACROSS Company doctor full of fun? (7) Crowd intend to chase out English pedlar (7) Pressurised, head of

school flusters badly (9) ught the stench from the river (5) 11 Open University's new and better (5)

12 Bewitched singer pulling up short in finale (9) One may have an eye for solving clues (9,5) 17 Reconstructed arbour's area with oil

lights at night (6.8) 21 The blaze, bursting out, traps one girl (9) 23 Make speech flowery? Take care about first of wood chopped (5) What sounds like girl's

Symbol of revolution associated with Soviet 27 Urge senior teacher to produce clever

gardening store? (9)

next nurchase in

DOWN

Helmet question features in trial (6) Vehicle pulled up within distance - a wonder (7) Drop out, being badly appraised (9)
The sort of books that show pictures of feet bound in rope? (6-5) China, white, slightly chipped (3) Exclamation by one

swallowing cold drink that should be bot (5) Expert seen in some art broadcast (7) Applied to What the Butler Saw" machines? (5.3) 13 The cost of restaurant tablecloths? (5,6) 15 Spicy stuff popular in

sailor's shanty (9) 16 Town lawyer in America raving "Hang 'em!" (8)18 Track bird, having the means (7) 19 Think I'm fashionable (and mature about it) (7)

equipment imported by Saudi organisation (5) 25 Cover barring Derbyshire's first run? (3)

20 Argue for termination

22 Sound reproduction

after getting fed up (6)

The first five correct solutions to this week's puzzle opened next Thursday receive hardbacked copies of the Oxford Dictionary of Quotations. Answers and winners' names will be published next Saturday, Send solutions to Saturday Crossword, P. O. Box 4018, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5BL, Please use the box number and postcode and give your own postcode. Last week's winners: K Kemp, Gosfield; G Alexander, Pevensey Bay; J Harris, Holmes Chapel; A Maguire, Dublin; J Myer, Bromley.

Counties struggling to keep heads above water

WITH THE second round of the County Championship due to finish today and just one positive resuit from the 11 matches completed so far, it would be fair to say the earliest-ever start to a season has not been a resounding success. Owing to weather more in keeping with, well, mid-April rather than midspring, the last domestic season before next year's streamlining of the first-class counties is taking an age to thaw.

The reason for beginning on 13 April, when Durham's Chester-le-Street ground was snowbound, is a congested summer featuring the World Cup, followed by four Tests against New Zealand, the new National League and Super Cup and an

expanded NatWest Trophy. Mike Gatting, the England selector now installed as firstteam coach at Middlesex who, you think that 25 per cent of our along with Warwickshire, were

unfortunate enough to have two home Championship fixtures scheduled in the first two weeks, nevertheless believes the England Cricket Board has missed at least one trick. "I think the World Cup has

prompted everything to go into April this year and rain is just one of those things," Gatting said after his side's match against Lancashire was abandoned yesterday without a ball being bowled. The problem is that games can go on till 7.40pm and it gets very dark at that time. I

think it was a slight oversight." Warwickshire's Brumbrella might have saved more of their game with Somerset bad flat sheets not been outlawed. Their chief executive, Dennis Amiss, said: "It is disappointing when

Championship cricket at Edg-

baston is already over and we've only had a couple of innings against Northants and one against Somerset.

"I can see pools of water all over the ground and Sunday's match against Worcester must be doubtful. For a local derby like that on a decent day you'd expect five or six thousand people, so that could cost us about £25,000."

At Leicestershire, where the match against Nottinghamshire was abandoned as a draw, manager Jack Birkenshaw called for a later start and finish.

"I believe that mid-April is far too early to be playing Championship cricket," be said. "I think it would be far better to start in May and go on until the end of September or early October."

It is hard to fathom bow a game so dependent on the weather was invented in a country with England's climate. Scoreboard, page 21

season threatens to be their worst in any division since 1954. They need four wins from their last five games to avoid that. "The fact we have two strik-

ers on the sidelines means it's difficult for us," their manager, suspended Robbie Fowler and injured Michael Owen. "We're very handicapped on the offensive front and we have to overcome that. Sometimes you need some more experience and say 'OK, we can't score but let's get the point'."

A Kop close revolt will not be appeased by such negativity. The sooner the season ends. the better for Liverpool.

Players agree to World Cup deal

CRICKET BY MYLES HODGSON

ENGLAND'S PLAYERS have averted a possibly damaging contract dispute ahead of this summer's World Cup by accepting revised terms offered by Lord's for the forthcoming

tournament. Negotiations between the England and Wales Cricket Board and the 15-man squad, which both sides had hoped to have completed before their recent Coca-Cola Cup campaign in Sharjah, had become worryingly protracted and distracting. But, after being given a deadline of 26 April to sign the new contract, which would earn them around £45,000 per man should they become the first host country to win the World Cup, or risk being replaced in the final squad, the players have now signalled their in-

tention to sign the contract. "All the lads have now agreed to sign their contracts and we're looking forward to playing in the tournament and to hopefully achieving success." the England captain, Alec Stewart, said.

The main stumbling block during the negotiations, which had a disruptive influence on morale during their time in Sharjah and the week-long training camp in Lahore, had been the structure of payment during the seven-week tournament. The players wanted a change to the disparity hetween being selected for the squad and playing in the World Cup, extra security in case of injury before the tournament began, and the difference between the basic fee and the bonus money brought closer to-

Those amendments to the original contract were agreed by the Board, although the players' hopes of matching the £1m promised to their rugby union counterparts for their World Cup were thwarted by the ECB chief executive Tim Lamb's insistence that no more money would be on offer. The fund will be made up of around £200,000 from the team sponsors Vodafone, £187,500 tournament prize money and the remainder coming from the ECB's coffers - which are limited by its failure to attract only four of the anticipated

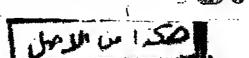
eight World Cup sponsors. Although Lamb estimated English cricket would benefit by around £12m from the tournament, he underlined the ECB's responsibility to the grass roots of the sport and insisted the game would not over-stretch itself financially to suit the players. He said: "I'm pleased we've resolved the outstanding points in the contract. I'm sure everyone will now want to focus completely on the World Cup

IN MONDAY'S 12-PAGE SPORTS SECTION

Derek Pringle on the Scotland team preparing to take on the leading cricket nations in the World Cup Glenn Moore reports from Elland Road as Leeds United aim to bring Manchester United back to earth. Chris Hewett on Leicester's campaign to bring the English rugby union title back to Welford Road

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WEEKEND REVIEW

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COMMENT

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COMEDY STORE

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Players
agree to
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Cup dea



Discovered by an obscure 18th-century poet, inhaled by Samuel Taylor Coleridge, put to good use by dentists ever since, nitrous oxide is a most cultured gas. What's more, it makes you laugh...

April 1799, a young English poet resident in Bristol took up a green silk bag and set himself deliberately to inhaling a full four quarts nf a mysterious new substance, generally known as gaseous of azote, or oxide of septon, or dephlogisticated nitrous gas. It was a brave, perhaps even a foolhardy experiment, but the youth's courage was rewarded almost instantly. He felt a "highly pleasurable thrilling, particularly in the chest and the extremities. The objects around me became dazzling and my hearing more acute. Towards the last inspirations, the thrilling increased..."

The reckless young poet and researcher (we would now call him a "scientist", a term still uncoined in 1799) was Humphry Davy; the substance was nitrous oxide, vulgarly referred to by generations of dental patients as "laughing gas"; and Davy's risky experiment, written up and published the following year as Researches, Chemical and Philosophical, Chiefly Concerning Nitrous Oxide... and its Respiration, made him an intellectual star at the age of 21.

Davy was quick to grasp at least some of the implications of his experiences, tentatively predicting that nitrous oxide "...may probably be used with advantage during surgical operations in which no great effusion of blood takes place". Even in his exalted or (literally) "inspired" state, bowever, Davy was not quite prophet enough to foresee the future career of his gas in all its peculiarity. Two bundred years on, we can see that Davy's deep gulps of N₂O had their consequences not just for deotistry but also for poetry, philosopby, psychology and show business; and the full implications of that pioneering encounter are once again becoming

the subject of lively debate.
For example, the author and journalist Mike

Jay, who has included several cootemporary accounts of the nitrous oxide breakthrough in his counts of the nitrous oxide break

would have been unimaginable."

Mr Jay's versioo of Humphry Davy as "the first modern psychonaut" may seem rather outlandish to those brought up on uplifting tales of Davy as the philanthropic geotleman who inveoted the safety lamp for miners. And yet it

isn't so very far from the view of Davy held by BY KEVIN JACKSON

his friends and co-experimentalists, particularly his fellow poets. Robert Southey, for one, was quite clear about his bedonistic motives for assisting Davy, and wrote to ooe of his circle in terms of bubbling enthusiasm: "Oh, Tom! such a gas has Davy discovered! Oh, Tom! I have had some. It made me laugh and tingle in every toe and fingertip. It makes one strong, and so happy! So gloriously happy! Ob excellent gas bag! Tom, I am sure the air in heaven must be this wonderworking gas of delight."

The playwright John Tobin stressed the similarities between a hit of N₂O and the exaltations of literary art. "The feelings." be wrote, "resembled those produced by a representation of an beroic sceoe on the stage, or by reading a sublime passage in poetry when circumstances contribute to awaken the finest sympathies of the soul." And though most readers will know something about Coleridge's long and sorry tryst

with opium, history has largely forgotten that he was also food of nitrous oxide. After inhaling some. Coleridge reported that he "could not avoid, oor indeed felt any wish to avoid, beating the ground with my feet; and after the mouth-piece was removed, I remained for a few

seconds motionless, in great ecstasy".

Later in life, Coleridge referred admiringly to Dayy as "the Father and Founder of philosophic Alchemy, the man who, born a poet, first converted Poetry into Science and realised what few men possessed Genius enough to fancy".

With fans of this calibre, it was little wonder that Davy's discovery soon became the object of a craze, and that some of the leading public figures of the day made their way to Bristol to breathe his heavenly oew air. Peter Mark Roget, later famous for his thesaurus but at the time a rising doctor, the eogineer James Watt, who gave Davy a hand with the construction of new gas masks and chambers; and the master

potter Josiah Wedgwood.

Reputable men, one and all, but it was not long before the practice of inhaling N₂O became highly disreputable, oot to say scandalous. Rumours began to spread about staid ladies driveo to acts of gross impropriety by their inhalations. One of these reports spoke of a plucky miss who took her intoxicating lungful

and ran amok.

"To the astonishment of everybody, the young lady dashed out of the room and bouse when, racing down Hope-square, she leaped over a great dog in her way, but being bothy pursued by the fleetest of her friends, the fair fugitive, or rather the temporary maniac, was at length overtaken and pursued, without further damage." I Something there for the next, "con-

troversial" TV adaptation of Jane Austen?

Thanks to this and similar episodes, the practice of inhaling nitrous oxide came to be seen as dangerous and depraved. "Pneumatic Continued on page 2



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How I came to look like this by Harold Pinter

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Peregrine Worsthorne explains why this woman destroyed Conservatism

REAL LIFE



Why the Bible is required reading for the fashion crowd

PLUS Michael Bywater Alain de Botton Simon Singh AN Wilson Will Self



Bullfighting No 6: Young noviliaros getting ready for a builfight in Navaluenga, in central Spain

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk (e-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address). Letters may be edited for length and clarity

Balkan dilemma

Sir: When will the West learn that the only approach to take towards a military conflict is a direct one? The "campaign" in the Balkans is running on, and shows signs that it will continue to do so, with no decisive result in sight.

From time to time we see reports of air attacks against targets in Iraq, some nine years down the line. The tentative approach to conducting a relatively lowrisk campaign over an extended period of time ends up causing more damage. more hardship and more casualties than a short. decisive engagement drawn and conducted with precise political objectives.

Dragging situations out with no decisive conclusion not only harms the civilian populations in the region, it also leads to heightened tension between world powers, ongoing cost and the risk of maintaining an active military presence a long way from the territory that they exist to protect. If this is not realised, there will be precious few Six Day Wars for us in the future, to the detriment of all. JOHN SPENCER Uxbridge, Middlesex

Sir: I have campaigned against Milosevic's actions for at least as long as Ken Livingstone ("Why we are not wrong to compare Milosevik to Hitler", 21 April), in Belgrade as well as London. but I am gravely worried that the only policy to emerge so far from the total failure of Nato's actions is the further escalation of bombing.

The only choice for the future being presented is not just more of the same but invasion. The Kosovan Albanians have suffered for more than a decade without significant protests from Western nations. They are now part of a catastrophe to which Nato has contributed. Macedonia and Montenegro cannot escape the creeping spread of this mad war for more than a few days. And then what?

The Russian extremists are waiting in the wings and there is serious, if rusty, nuclear firepower lying around. TONY SMYTRE London N4

Teenage misfits

Sir: The goth movement is not "obsessed with satanism and medieval torture" ("The misfits who killed for kicks", 22 April: That is a wildly inaccurate description of a complicated (and popular) American subculture.

The goth "movement" which is a misnomer - is a style of music (often moody, melodic, slow electronic music with an abundance of minor chords like Bauhaus), a style of dress twearing a lot of black, copying Victorian styles and 19thcentury arcanal and a social group. It is not an exclusively American movement

Satanism and the goth movement are not synonymous, Many "goths" are teenagers, to whom satanism has a certain rebellious appeal, but are not

in any way dangerous people. If you're going to link these boys with a subculture, the militia movement is far more accurate, with its obsession with war games and guns, than the goth movement. Most "goths" I have known spend their time writing abysmal poetry and traipsing through graveyards, trying to look poetic and pale.

They are mostly social misfits who can find acceptance in a subculture with very different social norms from the rest of American teenage society. What better way to rebel against the sunny disposition of the jock/cheerleader stereotype than by cultivating a calculated depression? ALICE MARWICK Seattle, Washington, USA

Sir: In your report, "Rifle association told to stay away from city" (23 April), you state that "Mr Heston sounded an altogether less conciliatory note, arguing that a teacher with a concealed weapon might have been able to curtail the violence".

Surely, teachers with concealed weapons holding a shoot-out with armed students in trenchcoats is a recipe for a far bloodier disaster than what occurred in Colorado. JEFFREY BAUMGARTNER Brussels

St George legend

Sir: Another St George's Day, another article questioning our allegiance to "a gentleman from Asia Minor" and informing us that nobody cares anyway ("Cry: God for Harry! England and Saint Who?", 23 April).

The article fails to address the central question over why the legend of St George has provided a source of inspiration for English people over the centuries. The reason is because of what the legend represents - the triumph of good over evil. The origin and nature of the man himself is of little significance.

While it may be true that the majority of English people do not overtly mark the day, I believe that this is indicative less of a lack of desire to rejoice in our achievements as a nation but more to do with feeling uncomfortable with the concept of celebrating an English national day.

This is engendered in no small part by a government that cares little for England as an entity, television controllers that devote no air time whatsoever to signifying St George's Day and journalists who seek to dampen down any enthusiasm that may spontaneously erupt. A SAWYER Edinburgh

Sir: Anne McElvoy makes the extremely common error of stating that St Augustine converted the British to a new faith. He didn't. He converted the pagan English in Kent.

The British (subsequently known as "Welsb", an Old High German word meaning foreign') had been Christian for centuries. There were British hishops at the Council of Arles, AD314, nearly 300 years before Augustine.

It is known that traders from the Mediterranean were visiting Britain even before the Romans (also pagans) arrived, and so it is almost certain that there were Christians in Britain from the very earliest days, as the legend of St Joseph of Arimathea at Glastonhury would seem to indicate. BENEDICT BAKER Brecon, Powys

King of the road

Sir. Geoffrey Thompson speaks of the "enormous" savings that can be made by giving up a car in London and taking taxi rides out of town, while William Kail (letters, 21 April) claims that car ownership for the urban user "costs a fortune".

One wonders how obliging SE13's taxi drivers are, and what cars Mr Kail has in mind. Between 1994 and 1998 I lived mostly in London. I went to work on the Tube, but needed a car for social and other purposes at the weekend. In 1994 I bought a second-hand 1980s saloon for £535.

During the following four and-a-half years it covered 45,000 miles at 35mpg. It cost £120pa for insurance, £350pa. on average, for repairs and servicing (with minor work being done at bome), £150pa in tax, £70pa in breakdown insurance and £75 to have it scrapped when it wore out. It broke down only four times.

It went all over the country, on all kinds of roads, at all times of day and night, often at short notice. Taking taxis to all the places that car went would not have saved a fortune. Carlessness is probably

acceptable for a hachelor leading a quiet, settled life with few out-of-London social contacts, or with a life that can be planned, in detail, a long time in advance. But it is not practicable for most of us, even if the car rests unused during the week. HEON STEVENSON

Church's shares

Sir: Your diary piece "Church drops BAe shares" (Business Review, 21 April is

misleading. The Church of England has never held shares in British Aerospace. The Church's long-

standing ethical investment policy is not to invest in companies whose main husiness is in the production The Church of England's

Ethical Investment Working Group has reviewed the Church's holding in GEC in the light of the proposed sale of Marconi Defence Systems, the defence arm of GEC, to BAe.

It has recommended that the church does not retain shares acquired in the "new" British Aerospace, should the sale go ahead.

GEC without Marconi Defence Systems would retain no defence involvement whatsoever and would be retained, like other holdings, subject to Church investors' investment and ethical criteria. ARUN KATARIA Communications Officer The Church of England Church Commissioners London SW1

Child sex crimes

Sir: Philip Sweeney's sympathetic treatment of convicted paedophiles in the Philippines (The Independent Magazine, 17 April) missed out the most important thing of all - the compelling evidence from the child victims themselves.

Had Philip taken the time to visit the Preda Children's Home when he was investigating the Olongapo paedophile sex bars, he could have talked to some of the 46 child victims in therapeutic recovery, ages ranging from six to 16.

Labelling the 20 Preda staffers who care for these child victims as part of a "coalition of paedophile vigilantes", is trite and unjust. Stating that we moved to have judges dismissed for failing to convict is untrue.

Michael Clarke was found guilty of violating Republic Act 7610. This law makes it a crime to offer minors for prostitution. The court found the ITN video of Clarke allegedly making such offers

compelling evidence, as well as a poster he had made advertising sex orgies and more besides

The allegation that I "condemn opponents by association and exaggeration". and the insinuation that we cut corners and bend the rules, in helping the children to bring their cases to court is basele

Philip Sweeney also failed to note that we vigorously campaign against the death penalty, which causes more beinous crimes against children and preventa nothing.

Had he spent more time with the official record and less in the kiddie sex clubs be would have enlightened and informed your readers and done justice to the children, who are the forgotten victims in his story. Fr SHAY CULLEN Preda Foundation Olongapo City

IN BRIEF

Sir: Gay rights campaigners responded to the Lords vote against lowering the homosexual age of consent last Tuesday by claiming that the Lords were out of touch. Out of touch with whom? The Lords have consistently voted against lowering the age of consent to 16. This accurately reflects the wishes of the electorate who are themselves two-thirds against this measure. It is the House of Commons and the Government that are out of touch with people of this nation. MICHAEL BELL Horsham, Sussex

Sir: In recent years, BBC presenters have shown an increasing inability to enunciate the word "sixth", pronouncing it as "sick". This affectation was originally confined to newsreaders and reporters, but has now spread across the corporation. Most recently, members of the public are beginning to fall prey to the affliction. Can anyone offer an explanation? PHIL SMITH Rugby, Warwickshire

What a gas!

Continued from page 1 medicine" went rapidly out of fashion and the inhalation of nitrous oxide became associated with mesmerism, animal magnetism and

other sordid phenomena. But the visionary gas could not be so easily confined. Blown out by the doctors, it drifted across the Atlantic and went into showbiz, being taken up by creative entrepreneurs, including the celebrated circus man PT Barnum, Crowds flocked to see Barnum's "Laughing Gas" exhib-

itions much as they now go to see a Paul McKenna stage hypnotism show. "The effect of the gas," as one poster advised punters in 1844, "is to make those who inhale it either LAUGH, SING, DANCE, SPEAK or FIGHT..." (The same poster stressed that "The Gas will be given only to gentlemen of the first respectability. The object is to make the entertainment in every respect a genteel affair." Of course, of course.)

One of the punters who attended this very show was Horace Wells, a local dentist who had already been experimenting with techniques of anaesthesia. He acquired some N2O, inhaled it, and - as his wife put it -"made a spectacle of himself". Undaunted, he persevered, and asked a colleague to knock him out with a strong dose of the substance and then remove one of his teeth. Eureka: nitrous oxide was firmly launched on its errand of mercy to humankind's rotten teeth.

The rest of that side of the N₂O story is well enough documented. The story of its adventures in the realm of ideas and sensations is patchier, and stands in need of further research, Coleridge and Southey were certainly not the last poets to have used nitrous oxide as a gateway into other modes of perception - Allen Ginsberg, for one, wrote s lengthy ode about his hours under laughing gas. But when the full history of N₂O comes to be written, one name is bound to dominate the field: that of William James, the great American psychologist, writer and philosopher. In Varieties of Religious Experience, James wrote: "Our normal waking consciousness,



is but one special type of consciousness, whilst all about it, parted from it by the filmiest of screens. there lie potential forms of consciousness entirely different." Of all the experiences that had led him to this conclusion, James said, the most important was his own inhalation of oxide - a gas which can stimulate the mystical consciousness in an extraordinary degree". He said: "I know more than one person who is persuaded that in the nitrous oxide trance we have a genuine metaphysical revelation."

There are distinct similarities between James's accounts of "mystical" states of consciousness and those recorded by Davy after his own sessions with the gas. "Every thing seemed alive, and myself part of the series of visible impressions: I should have felt pain in tearing a

leaf from one of the trees..." Davy's work with nitrous oxide is to be commemorated by the medical profession at a conference a few weeks hence, and - so rumour has it - by less orthodox souls in less sober ways, too. Whatever our attitude to drugs, to mysticism or (come to that, to poetry, it seems only fair. that we should celebrate Humphry Davy's bold intakes of breath 200 years ago by remembering him as a more complex, more unsettling and considerably more visionary man than the boringly worthy, ragsto-riches hero of Victorian folklore; to remember him, among other things, as the man who came round from a nitrous oxide trance shouting the thrilling news that "Nothing exists but thoughts!"

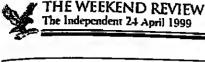
As old hippies everywhere might put it: Davy was a real gas.

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Curiosity may have killed the cat but it did wonders for us

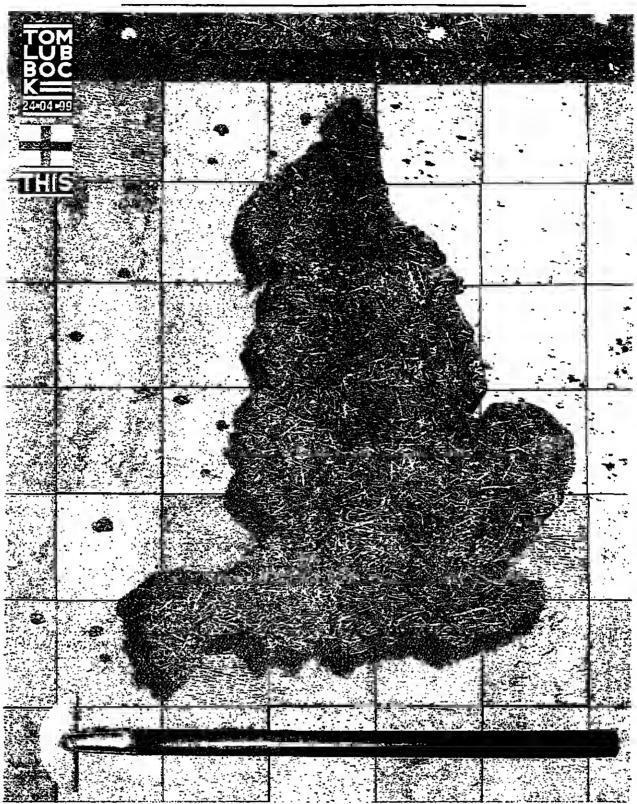
IT MAKES you think, doesn't it? Ever since early buman beings gazed at the stars from the mouth of a cave and wondered, "Why are we here?", that curiosity about our place in space and time has driven science forward, even when it was called religion. Not that caves had much to do with it. One by one, all the popular assumptions about human origins have been exploded by the steady accumulation of evidence and the testing and remaking of hypotheses. Our ancestors did not live in caves, the Neanderthals turned out to be an evolutionary cul-de-sac, and the whole notion of steady progression, from left to right on the page, from knuckle-dragging savage to noble athlete, has been lost in a picture of ever-growing tangled complexity.

This week's report of the discovery of another "missing link", an ape-like animal that lived in Ethiopia 2.5 million years ago, adds to the realisation that shuman evolution was a remarkably fitful, accidental and above all, recent development. The more we know, the less simple it seems. Far from its being a single line of descent, with a few evolutionary dead-ends branching off it, it seems that for hundreds of thousands of years an astonishing number of different species and subspecies of ape-like and then human-like animals adapted, migrated and died out. Although it is clear that modern humans came out of Africa, this was not, it seems, a single process of migration, but an endless series of waves of related species overlapping and competing with each other. Supremacy was established all over the globe by the current model in a blink of Time's eye, the past 100,000 years.

And, far from a steady progression from eating berries in trees to building pyramids, it turns out that these species evolved in a series of relatively sudden steps. Walking on two legs was one, the tripling of brain size was another, the development of language a third. In many ways, the big increase in the size of hominid brains is the most puzzling of these changes. Recently, a number of theories based on new evidence have been put forward to try to explain it. The find in Ethiopia suggests that the use of tools to cut meat could bave been the key breakthrough, allowing mostly vegetarian apes to enjoy a high-fat diet of meat and bone-marrow.

Earlier this month, bowever, a contradictory theory s floated, which is that it was the invention of cooking which boosted the calorie intake of buman ancestors by allowing them to eat root vegetables. So there you have it. The success of the human species was made possible by a bunch of renegade vegetarian carnivores bell-bent on exploiting technology to kill and carve. Or by a domesticated tribe of Delia Smiths, keeping their drone-like menfolk in check by stuffing them full of carpobydrates in between their occasional rather desultory, hunter-gathering missions. This has kept the readers of the less serious press entertained with pictures of the young Raquel Welch in a pelt and much speculation about the sexual attractiveness of

But an important point is that the theory of evolution is now entirely accepted. The relevance of new discoveries is not that they belp to win an argument against the creationists - that was won long ago. Instead they contribute to a widening popular convers-



ation about the origins of bumanity, itself part of increasing the public understanding of science, which is one of the causes to which this newspaper has been committed since its advent.

The twin obsessions of popular science - the search "the missing link" of human evolution and the hunt for intelligent life elsewhere in the universe - are essentially two aspects of the same phenomenon. The defining characteristic of the modern rational sensibility is the realisation of the insignificance of humanity in both space and time. In space, we may not be alone, but we might as well be, despite this month's report of another star with a "solar system" of planets like ours. And burnans occupy an insignificant amount of time; recent advances in the understanding of human evolution emphasise just how short-lived and precar-

Where does that get us? This kind of pure curiosity is never going to give us better non-stick frying-pans. the by-product of applied curiosity in the form of the Apollo space programme. But the more we understand how it was curiosity itself which selected ! their unique ability to overrun the world, the better equipped we may be to deal with the unstable and dangerous consequences of our "success". The ease with which so many species died out underlines our fragile bold on the world. It is our capacity for thought, language, for making moral choices, for adapting to changing environments, that has made us what we are today. Finding out more about the missing links of evolution will not make people happier or richer, or bring about world peace. But it makes you think.

ious the "success" of Homo sapiens sapiens has been.

Nato should stick to military targets

THE STORMING of the Bastille, 210 years on. That is the name given hy disrespectful Belgraders to the headquarters huilding of Serbian television, which Nato bombed early yesterday morning. Slobodan Milosevic's broadcasting outfit is undoubtedly a loathsome instrument of racist Serb propaganda, hut this choice of target leaves a bad taste in the mouth. It seems to bave been part of a sequence of questionable targets in recent days: first the beadquarters of Milosevic's socialist party, then the dictator's house, defined by Nato as a "command and control centre", presumably on the basis that it had a telephone.

All these attacks are clearly aimed at the leadership of the regime which is responsible for "ethnic cleansing" in Kosovo. But the idea that they will destroy the morale of Milosevic and his commanders is unconvincing. To argue that these targets are all symbols of the Milosevic regime cuts both ways. The symbolism ensures that Serb nationalists will be strengthened in their conviction that Nato is at war with their nation, and their resolve hardened by a sense of aggrieved adversity. Douhting members of the Neto alliance, such as Greece and Italy, will be alarmed by the bombing of targets which are explicitly not military. The idea that chemicals plants, transport facilities and even food supplies might potentially support the Serb killing machine has been accepted, bowever reluctantly. Bombing a television station is different. Milosevic's propaganda, aimed at his armed forces and the Serb population generally, will find a way, with or without the seven o'clock news.

The attack seems to have been peculiarly ill directed. It has not taken Serb television off the air, but it bas killed civilian staff such as cleaners and make-up assistants - partly because they assumed that Nato bombers might hit the transmitters, but not the office. Which only raises the question: why didn't they?

It bas to be emphasised once again that a war fought by democratic nations for a just cause must be fought by limited, morally justifiable means. Simply labelling Serb television "the ministry of lies" is not enough. That means Nato is bombing people because we do not like what they say. What they say is indeed odious, proclaiming the racial superiority of Slavs and justifying the expulsion of Muslims from "Serb" soil, but bombing is not refutation. Nato spokesmen should pause, too, to reflect that they hardly served the cause of truth in their accounts of the bombing of the refugee convoys.

The Prime Minister's speech in Chicago on Tbursday night was an admirable attempt to set out a new doctrine of international statesmanship, something which could genuinely be called an ethical foreign policy. The "Blair doctrine" justifies intervention in the internal affairs of sovereign states in cases of crimes against humanity, provided certain basic conditions are met. This cause could be a great step forward in the post-Cold War world. But it must be taken with care.

It is not wrong to try to undermine the confidence of Milosevic's power élite, but fighting a limited war from the air requires a greater degree of certainty about the outcome. If we could not be sure that the broadcasts would be knocked out, it would bave been better to have kept to strictly military targets. This week's choice of targets contains another unfortunate implication, which is that Nato cannot find enough purely military objectives that it can hit with eertainty. The case for deploying ground forces grows stronger and stronger.

Evil only survives because we walk away from its horror

and conscience. It is a story from five years ago, but a story that travels, a story with parallels. Five years ago, in a time of chaos, I travelled to a town in the centre of Africa. It was a town high in the mountains, surrounded by forests of conifers and with a long and wide main street originally designed with borse-drawn carriages or ox wagons in mind. By the standards of Central Africa it was also a town of unusual sophistication. There was a uriversity here and several seminaries f. training of nuns and priests. On the main street there were two good hotels and, at the top of this street, an acre or so of fine colonial houses set amid a rich landscape of bougainvillaea and palm trees. For decades this town had been the main seat of learning and culture in the country. Students travelled there from across the

region, so well respected were the lecturers and professors. But when I arrived it was a place that had ceased to exist as part of the civilised world. The physical infrastructure was intact, but the men who controlled the place seemed to me to have come from a darker, fevered zone of the imagination. There were roadhlocks - more than 30 on the short journey from the border to the centre of town. At these roadblocks were men with machetes and grenades. Some of them were drunk, others dangled the our car and laughed. All of them had been participants in mass murder. They were men and boys who had passed beyond the bounds of humanity and they were looking for people to kill; to be precise, they were looking for people who were black and tall and thin, people who conformed to the and seize some of them. They plainly

I WANT to tell you a story about fear physical archetype of the country's ethnic minority.

I am telling you this story because it has profoundly shaped my view of world events. The experience of those few days in that African town still make me feel a sense of weakness and of shame, however much I try to rationalise what I feel was my own failure. By the time I arrived in the town, most of the ethnic minority population had been exterminated. This had been achieved through the joint efforts of a political élite that directed the killing and the soldiers and peasants who did the hands-on work of murder. People were killed in any number of ways: among the more imaginative means employed by the army was to dig trenches, fill them with gasoline and set them alight. They then forced

men, women and children to jump into I knew that there were still memhers of the minority hiding in forests and private homes. The soldiers and the militia were stepping up their attempts to find them. And I was also made aware that a sizeable group of refugees, members of the minority, were camping out in front of the offices of the local administration. They had been driven from their villages. Some had lost family members. Most had survived attacks on the roads leading into town. They were very lucky to be alive. It appeared that some of those involved in the genocide feared the prospect of justice and had decided to try to preserve the lives of these people, perhaps so that they could later claim that they had acted heroically. But the people were quite plainly terrified. I had been told that, at night, the army and the militia would come



FERGAL KEANE Confronted with genocide,

fear made me decide that the safest - not the best thing to do was nothing

understood that they were living on borrowed time. I asked the local prefet - the chief

administrator - what would happen to them. He assured me that they would be safe. For the record, this prefet is now facing charges of genocide at the International War Crimes Trial in Arusha, Tanzania. I went back at night to try to speak with the people. But the army came up and told me and my colleagues to go away. It was on the colonel's orders, they said. Nobody was to be allowed near the refugees. And being afraid, very afraid, I did not insist on my right to stay there; I did not insist that I should be allowed to speak to the people and confirm for myself that they were indeed safe. Fear made me step back. Fear made me turn round and negotiate my way home through the roadhlocks. Fear made me decide that the safest - not the best - thing to do was nothing.

You must understand that this

capsizing of a world. And in this town of scholars and churches the moral order had been subverted: the "good" man was one who killed his oeighbour, the "bad" man was one who shied away from murder. But I come back to the question of fear. I have since told myself that nothing I or my colleagues could have done would have made a difference. The army would have physically prevented us from ap-proaching the frightened refugees, had we tried to push forward. They and the militia had their plans for those people and we would have been unable to alter that. And all of that is true in so far as it goes. But my own actions were motivated not by those rational considerations, but quite simply by fear. I was physically powerless and afraid for my own life. Confronted with evil, I had to

admit an inability to be heroic. I don't doubt that the soldiers understood this too. They were seasoned killers and they bad the power. In such times the gun maketh the man. I am not a warmonger; the corpses, the shattered limbs, the orphans, the smell and the blood of war long ago proved to me the waste and

But that encounter in Central Africa helped to convince me that there are times when evil demands that we employ force to ensure that it is defeated. This is a notion that our liberal society finds difficult to countenance; it seems to challenge the very idea we have of ourselves at the end of this century.

it will lead us. And we are right to question and right to worry. But when you many dead bodies, after seeing the anxieties, you are faced with a very correspondent

simple question. When confronted with evil, do you take a view that you should not act to prevent it continuing? You may take this view for any number of reasons: You believe there is no national interest to be served by intervention (honest but hlinkered)

You wonder why we act in one place when we did not act in, say, Rwanda or East Timor (a fair question, but it evades the point

You believe that everybody involved is savage and one side is bad as the other (frequently expressed, but racist, and it ignores history) You believe that the long-term con-

sequences may be catastrophic intelligent and sober, but this again misses the point There are all these reasons, and I

do not mock anybody who espouses

them. But I come back to the question

that faces all of us: when confronted

with evil on a vast scale, do you sit back

and do nothing when you have the power and scope to do something? Of course, we cannot intervene everywhere, all the time. But we can intervene where it is possible, and where the scale of the crime insists that we act. That is why, for example, we have a UN convention on genocide: the legal injunction that forces us to

recognise the singularity of some

international crimes above all others. Evil survives - whether in East Timor or Rwanda or the Balkans because those with the power to act fail in their moral duty. There are those War makes us shiver: we lie awake who will tell you that it is not as simple wondering where it will all end, where as that. But it really is. It is as simple as not walking away.

encounter had come after seeing have had all the arguments and the The writer is a BBC News special

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GROUND WAR IN KOSOVO

The British press contemplates the possibility of Nato sending troops on the ground into Kosovo

DAILY MAIL

NATO'S LEADERS seem to be edging towards the conclusion that a ground attack is necessary. But if they are going to take this giant step. they will have to start preparing for it now. The West took the decision to open hostilities. Now it must show the resolution to finish the job. But winning the war will not be the end of the problem for the West. The Alliance would take over a Kosovo that is utterly devastated. Rebuilding will require a vast Western aid effort. Meanwhile British and Nato troops may be stuck in the province for a generation. There will be no glory in victory. Just a smoking battlefield and the prospect of long. thankless years spent in maintaining a bitter and uneasy peace. It is

THE MIRROR

IF BLAIR now decides to send in ground troops, we will again back him to the hilt. We do not say this because we are warmongers. Nothing would please us more than to see an end to further bloodshed. We say in the US if the troops did actually it because we can see no other way of halting the genocidal scorchedearth policy of Milosevic. The West is determined to end his reign of terror. When be sees the armies of democracy massed on the borders of Kosovo he'd better believe that they are not there for show. They will crush him. And The Mirror will be supporting them all the way.

NEW STATESMAN

FIVE PRACTICAL questions must be raised. First, can the bombing work? Second, can we put in ground forces? Third, can we risk our own blood? Fourth, can Nato bold to-gether? Fifth, can we afford it? Only if the answers to all these quesbons are clearly "yes" should Nato press the war to a conclusion. If the answer to any one of them is "no", it should pursue a peace deal, based on the partition of Kosovo, at the earliest possible moment. To do othersince more Balkan lives would be sacrificed to no end, inhumane.

THE ECONOMIST

GRADUALLY THE government is abandoning its belief that Nato will not have to fight its way in. But it does not favour a full invasion. Is there a third way? In the House of Commons this week Robin Cook, conceded that he could imagine circumstances in which Milosevic had not yet admitted defeat but in which his forces were in retreat and unable to put up much of a fight. You can see at once the special appeal to Blair of such an eventuality. If only an unopposed invasion by relatively light forces could do the business. Then Britain could be seen to pull its weight, despite having relatively little military weight to pull.

THE TIMES

AT PRESENT, British and American opinion, shocked by the plight of the refugees, dismayed by the political ineffectiveness of the bombing, seems to be moving in favour of invasion. This movement of opinion is not shared on the Continent. I doubt if it could be relied on even bere or go in. The British have been horri-fied by the television pictures of burnan suffering, but television is a short-term, high-impact medium in which new images constantly obliterate the old ones. At present the emotional case for a Balkan war seems very powerful, but, as Robert Walpole said of war with Spain in 1739: "They now ring the bells, but they will soon wring their hands."

EVENING STANDARD

IF NATO begins a big ground buildup now the generals will tell the Nato leaders, there is a good chance of being able to launch a decisive incursion. A Nato military man has said: "The only way the Serbs can win is if the Alliance falls apart." But, to put the matter the other way around: the only way the Alliance can be sure of winning within a politically acceptable timeframe is to put in ground troops whether or not Milosevic has signed their passports. (Max Hastings)

Armed and trigger-happy kids

ARIZONA REPUBLIC

IT IS no longer enough to simply wag our fingers at the raft of usual suspects. This time, we can't allow ourselves to simply scowl at the National Rifle Association. Or at disintegrating families and bleak, cynical television that trivializes life. We can't simply rage at bloody video games. Not this time. This Black Death is spreading too far. too fast. This time we cannot just cluck our tongues and, when the wailing is done, simply walk away.

THE WASHINGTON POST

THE NATIONAL arsenal of America is notorious worldwide. Outcasts seeking attention get it when they are armed. It emboldens kids in rural as well as urban settings and from all social groups. Law enforcement authorities - those on the front lines - continue to urge more attention to public safety, as do voters in more and more states. How many more tragedies like this one in Colorado must it take for the country to stop feeding fire-power so freely to its youth?

FREE LANCE STAR Virginia

WHAT HAPPENED comes easier in a culture where much of the "entertainment" is blood-drenched and where gunsmoke is depicted as redemptive. When we endlessly "consume" this drek, something else is being consumed in the process. "I looked into his eyes," a survivor said of one of the killers. "There was nothing there."

THE CORNING LEADER New York

LITTLETON IS no different than a thousand other communities struggling with the impersonal texture of modern suburban life. It has hurried boulevards clogged with commuters, clone-bome neighborhoods filled with professional-level migrant families, parents bolding down multiple jobs, overworked police trying to keep a lid on vandalism and vagrancy and giant schools where hurting kids scream for belp with silent voices. We believe the time for talk WHATEVER DEVILS plague a tortured



American comment on the shooting dead of of thirteen people in a Colorado school by two teenage pupils, members of the self-styled 'Trenchcoat Mafia'

and excuses has passed. We should pledge to give our children what they need - love and personal attention. We must not give in to the evil of humanity's violent history, but must overcome evil with good.

INTELLIGENCER-RECORD Philodelphio

SOCIETY ITSELF is to blame for much of what's been happening on our streets and in our schools. Life has been cheapened; values have been compromised; doing the right thing has been replaced by doing anything. Can we be genuinely surprised when young people see solutions in violence? After all, they have a lot of source material (adults) from which to draw.

CORPUS CHRISTI CALLER TIMES

psyche, access to a gun magnifies them. will elude us forever. Nor will any answer Every bloody rampage by the disaffected and the deranged is an argument that this nation pays a terrible price for its reluctance to restrict firearms. We must also try to understand the anger and disaffection that is growing along the fringes of the teenage crowds. We may not understand what causes such dark fantasies to grow or what nurtures them. But we can stop them before they explode as they did on Tuesday.

DENVER POST Colorado

In stunned disbelief, we have watched the tragedy at Columbine High School unfold. We bave prayed for the students and faculty. We have prayed for the families who waited in numbed torment to learn the fate of those they loved. We have prayed for the police who risked their own lives. And we have no answers. The reasons behind this act of mindless, senseless violence elude us now and, perhaps,

ever be acceptable.

THE

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WASHINGTON TIMES

HOW DO we prevent another school shooting from happening? We try by making sure that this nation's children grow up with the awareness that we are created in the image of God and that therefore the loss of even one individual is a tragedy - let alone the loss of 15 youngsters who should have had all their bright lives before them.

HURON DAILY TRIBUNE Michigon

EVERY SCHOOL has its outcasts. Every child exposed to TV has seen hundreds of portrayals of killings. Are we fated to have more senseless mass murders? We must find a way to defuse the anger and end their bopelessness.

LIZ TILBERIS

Tributes to Liz Tilberis, former editor of Vogue and Harper's Bazaar, who died from ovarian cancer this week

EVENING STANDARD

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HER GREATEST achievement was in her prolonged battle against ovarian cancer. When the disease struck, she proceeded to speak publicly about it, to raise funds for cancer charities and to write coherently about ber condition. In this, as in ber whole career, Liz Tilberis belped and comforted untold thousands of women. (Mimi Spencer)

THE NEW YORK

ELIZABETH TILBERIS transformed Harper's Bazaar from a tired magazine into a viable voice in fashion while she battled ovarian cancer and raised awareness of the disease. She was highly respected for ber ability as an editor, her warmth and ber good humor in the to halt the spread of the cancer that ultimately took her life.



While hospitalized in December 1993 and again in the summer of 1995 she oversaw each issue of the magazine, which she had edited since 1992.

THE TIMES

ALTHOUGH LIZ Tilberis had many of the characteristics of women who reach the top in fashion journalism, such as a ruthless determination and the ability to undermine the efforts of rivals by word, thought and deed, she was not really a fashion person. She was far too

pleasant for that. A born maverick, she was always strong, wilful and disinclined to allow others to write rules for ber and nobody was surprised that she kept her fighting spirit to the end. She fought death with bumour and panache. As she said in her book "I can't afford to have bad hair days. Pve seen the dark side of the moon." It engulfed her too early.

DAILY MAIL

NO ONE ever fought harder for life than Elizabeth Tilberis. the ordinary girl from the Midlands who by dint of talent, burnour and guts, conquered New York as editor of Horper's Bazaar. She could call the Princess of Wales her close friend and even seemed to have defied ovarian cancer. But then, beneath her feminine demeanour and that wicked sense of burnour, she did have a core of well-polished steel. She put it down to the doggedness of her

THE VIEWS OF THE WORLD

The Italian press considers the defeat of their team Juventus at the hands of Man Utd debate for years what led to this

MANCHESTER UNITED

TUTTOSPORT

AN OUTSTANDING Manchester United has knocked Juventus oot of the European Cup semifinals. Arrogant though Alex Ferguson may be, his team are both magnificent and divine in equal measure. After the suffering of their 1-1 draw in the first leg, they managed to put on a majestic performance in Turin. And they deserved to win, thanks to the superb skill of Cole, who produced a truly wonderful display of football.

LA GAZETTA DELLO SPORT

DESPITE ALL its talk about dictating the play. Juventus let Manchester United take the initiative, and was punished in the most atrocious manner. Juventus put on a mask for the Old Trafford encounter, vaunting confidence, but underneath they had a face transfigured by down to the doggedness of her fear; the first headed goal by Irisb genes. (Brenda Polan) Keane revealed that. We will

team that knew how to dare away, and in front of their worst enemies, even though they started from a terrible psychological situation.

tactical suicide from the most

experienced team that exists,

but let's join in the applause of

the stadium for the Manches-

ter players. In the bitterness of

a magic night, we are left with

the image of a magnificent

CORRIERE DELLO SPORT AFTER JUVENTUS'S initial

burst of flame, which should have reduced the English to ashes, they instead decided to sit back, hoping, or at least thinking, that they could live off that incredible lead. It was a fatal mistake, because Manchester took the match in hand, backed Juventus into a corner and showed what they know bow to do best - and that's play fast, well-organised, courageous and powerful football.

BRIXTON BOMB Reaction to the nail bomb which exploded

in a busy market street at the weekend

SOUTH LONDON PRESS

IT IS almost impossible to comprehend the mentality of that person who made and primed that bomb, and then left it in the middle of Brixton knowing that it would main dozens of people. black and white. I was also incensed by the way certain "community leaders" immediately denounced it as a "race hate" backlash. It may well have been, but in the aftermath of Saturday's blast, no one knew for sure and to bandy that sort of rhetoric about was inflammatory and insensitive. (Jim Blunt)

THE TIMES

BRIXTON IS a resilient place, bowever. It bas bad to be. With more than its fair share of troubles in the past 30 years, it has learnt to turn adversity to its advantage. Lacking wealth, jobs and beauty. Brixton has seen race riots and race hatred.

back. Urban regeneration, imaginative integration, the kindling of ethnic pride amid racial diversity have made Brixton now a symbol more of bope than deprivation. No wonder Nelson Mandela asked to go there. Its streets hum with life; no deranged terrorist can destroy their vibrant variety.

police brutality and police

victimisation, segregation and

prejudice. There bave been

national inquiries and govern-

ment resolutions. But since

1981, the district has fought

THE EXPRESS

SOME OF those burt will never recover from their injuries and none will forget the moment that changed their lives. For the rest of Britain, this despicable act of violence has raised, yet again, the spectre of terrorism. Saturday's bomb had nothing to do with Northern Ireland but has reminded us all of one simple truth - that there is nothing more important than peace.

MISCELLANEOUS

Stories from around the world

FAROE ISLAND

YOUNG FAROESE women should restrain from eating whale-meat and blubber if they plan to have children, a team of Faroese researchers recommended recently. The amounts of PCB contained in whalemeat and, particularly, blubber has prompted the warning because women will pass the PCB on to their children during pregnancy. It is recommended not to eat whale-meat more than once or twice a month.

AL GOMHURIYA

Egypt POLICE HAD their hands full trying to manage the chaos

caused by the introduction of hundreds of thousands of sheep into Egyptian households over the Lid. There was at least one ovine-related fatality - Ragab Mohammed Alam fell to his death pursuing a ram across a fourth-storey balcony on Saad Zaghloul street, in Giza (the sheep escaped but is presumed devoured).

In the Minya village of Al Ashraf Bafoa, a sbeep belonging to one family burst into another family's home, triggering a knife fight that left four injured. And in south Cairo, a hutcher and his two unemployed side-kicks were arrested for sheep-rustling - apparently. they managed to steal 12 unattended animals and E£100,000 worth of meat and sell it before they were caught.

RESEARCH BY SALLY CHATTERTON

OUOTES OF THE WEEK



Success is the only exit strategy I am prepared to consider." Tony Blair (above) on the Kosovo war

"That would be difficult." Sir Edward Heath to **Baroness Thatcher** when she told him at a photocall: "You should be on my

"There are three things in this world you can do nothing about: getting Aids. getting clamped and running out of Chateau Lafite '45." Alan Clark, Tory MP

We spend a lot of time praying for William Hague, and we sometimes pray for Tony Blair, We have to because he's the Prime Minister." Tim Montgomerie, Conservative Christian Fellowship

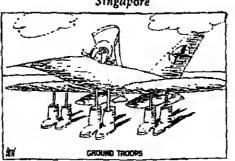
"Giamour is on a lifesupport machine and not expected to live." Joan Collins, actress

Six of us collapsed on top of each other. with a rhinoceros at the bottom. To cap it all, I was overtaken by a Womble." Peregrine Armstrong Jones, half-brother of Lord Snowdon, on his marathon





THE STRAITS TIMES Singapore



المكرا من الاحل

SUDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG Germany

Vive la France is not a trade fair, it's a way of life

IS FRANCE still top oation? A survey in a New York newspaper richer than Greek: Italian food is the most varied and the most survey in a New York newspaper a couple of years ago asked its readers to nominate the most civilised nation in terms of richness of culture, quality of life, history, geography and geoeral overall ambience. France won, followed not very closely by Britain, with Italy coming in third. Civilisation, in this instance at least, was limited to Europe.

What fired most of those Americans to vote for France was its wine, its cuisine, its cathedrals and, above all, Paris, symbol of all things chic, stylish and desirable. Speaking for myself, the Is would have had it - Ireland, Italy and India in no particular order - be-cause all three countries have impressive top-nation qualities. Indian mythology is arguably

delicious to be had; while Ireland has Yeats and Connemara and, above all, the Irish.

If quality of life means where you would get the most value from an hour chatting to the locals over a pint, Ireland would win bands down. The French would come nowhere - they never chat to foreigners, especially Americans.

Musing inconsequentially thus, I sat last Tuesday morning in a chic, stylish and eminently desirable drawing-room, one of many, in the French Ambassador's residence overlooking Kensington Gardens in London, waiting to be told by His Excellence why the French tourist board is hosting a three-day event called, daringly, "Vive la France", next January. I would have called

M Bernard, the Ambassador, and all the other speakers after him including Michael Heseltine, who revealed for the first time, he claimed, that he had a French grandmother - quickly disabused me of this entirely erroneous, not to say unglamorous, notion.
"Vive la France" was to be a

celebration, a festival, a tribute to the French way of life for the benefit of all those British folk who appreciate what the French are so good at - food, wine, fashion, farm-bouse holidays, blockading Channel ports, etc. We were shown a video from which, to the lilting accompaniment of "La Vie en Rose", we learnt that the promotion sorry, celebration - was aimed at high spenders aged between 25 and 54 and that sponsors interested in



SUE ARNOLD

If quality of life means chatting to the locals over a pint, the French would get nowhere

taking stands or staging eveots should ring the following numbers. "We are hringing the soul of France to the heart of London."

breaking with emotion.

Afterwards, I made a beeline for a serious-looking, elegantly dressed young man who might easily have been curator of the Quai d'Orsay museum isomeone said he was there). He turned out, in fact, to run a removals company that ships furniture to the Dordogne for English people who've bought second homes in France. When we ran out of things to say about moving small upright pianos and large Chesterfield sofas, he introduced me to an estate agent, a travel agent and a girl who works for Eurostar, who said no one called them trade fairs any more. Nowadays they are designed to be like sophisticated theme parks,

which are there to compete with

conventional tourist attractions.

"Not the Natural History Mus-eum again, please Mum," cry your treasures. "It's so boring. Can't we go to the Scandinavian Fish and Knitwear exhibition at Olympia instead?" So off we go, and return four hours later laden with brochures for mail-order gravadlax and oiled wool and maybe a sample

of rollmops in brine.

Now I come to think of it, I was once invited to a glittering evening at the Icelandic Embassy for just such a purpose. We ate herring served in 50 different ways, served by beautiful ice maidens modelling 50 varieties of Aran jersey. Everyone smelt like sea lions.

"Trade fair", I admit, has an unpleasant commercial ring to it. but calling what is basically a shopping arcade a celebration, is going a bit far The estate agent said, some-

what defensively, that shopping in France was an altogether different experience anyway. He's right there. Buy a perfectly ordinary apple pie in a boulangerie and they'll wrap it up for you like a wedding present

It was at a trade fair that my exmother-in-law found one of my more memorable birthday presents. She is an enthusiastic fairgoer and inveterate bargain-hunter. On that occasion she combined hoth. At the Greetings Card, Novelties and Small Gifts exhibition. her eagle eye spotted a paperweight in the shape of the Eiffel Tower, reduced from £5 to £1 because it had only three legs. It was not a celebration of the French way of life, hut all the same I liked it. It was different. Vive la difference! "Vive la France"!

THE SATURDAY PROFILE

SONIA GANDHI, INDIAN POLITICIAN

The widow who would be queen

THIS WAS the week that Sonia Gandhi very nearly became India'a new prime minister. Yesterday ber scheme came unstuck, and the Congress, the party of which she is president, conceded that its attempt to glue daughter Indira. (Her husband, Feroze together enough small parties to form a coalition had failed. But it was a close-run thing. And on the other side of the general election that now appears almost certain, it could well happen.

It was a tantalising moment: when the impossible absurdity that has menaced India for most of the Nineties almost came to pass; when the second largest nation in the world, whose modern history volves around its struggle to shuck off foreign rule, nearly found itself governed once again by a foreigner.

Sonia Gandhi is not, legally speaking, Italian any more. She has Indian citizenship, though her detractors like to point out that she became an Indian only after her husband Rajiv became Prime Minister, when it was politically essential. She has lived in India for 30 years; she wears, in public at least, only saris and shalwarkameez; she speaks Hindi, though opinions differ as to how fluent she is.

For educated Indians, however, all this is mere stage dressing, props to bamboozle the masses. Sonia Gandhi is as Italian as fettucine. Prada or the Vatican. The notion of being ruled by her, for many Indians with some sense of national dignity and integrity, is deeply upsetting.

No one says this in public. Every nation has its proprieties and inhibitions. India's self-image, thanks to Mahatma Gandhi, is liberal through and through, and to voice something as crass as racial discrimination, even against a paleface, is not done. But they think it, and they say it among themselves, and to any foreigner curious enough to ask. In public all is smiling guiescence, the bead-wagging Indian geature of cheerful assent. It is left to Bal Thackeray, quasi-Fascist leader of Bombay's Shiv Sena Party, to say on the record what is on everybody's mind. "If we must be ruled by foreigners again," he stormed during last year's general election, "let's invite the British back. At least they had

200 years' experience." This week, Sonia Gandhi came close to pulling it off. The Congress Party - founded, as her supporters never fail to mention, by an Englishman - has the second largest number of seats in Lok Sabha (India's House of Commons). With the ruling Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) coalition felled by a single vote in last Saturday's vote of confidence, Congress stood again on the threshold of power The party was united behind Sonia Gandhi. She bas no parliamentary seat, but in the Indian system that was no obstacle. Within the astatutory six months of attaining power, a safe seat would undoubtedly have been

made available for her. Sonia Gandhi, the widow of the one-time Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, is Con-

dynastic principle is the only principle that bolds her party together. Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister, was Asian nation most likely to succeed. Forty daughter Indira. (Her husband, Feroze Gandhi, had no connection to the Mahatma, but the name's resonance was undoubtedly useful.) Indira groomed her son Sanjay to take over; when he died in a flying accident she turned to his elder brother, Rajiv, a professional pilot and a most reluctant politician.

Rajiv Gandhi hecame Prime Minister when his mother was murdered by ber bodyguard in 1984. And when Rajiv himself was blown up by an assassin in 1991. the party turned, with a sort of weary automatism, to his widow.

Sonia said no. If educated India confronts the likelihood of coming under the

LIFE STORY

Origins: horn in 1946 in Orbassano, a small town outside Turin, daughter of a prosperous huilding contractor, Stefano Maino Career: au pair at Cambridge from 1965; worked as a picture restorer and housewife during her marriage in Delhi. Following the deaths of her mother-in-law Indira and her husband Rajiv, she became

archivist-in-chlef of the Gandhi

dynasty Nicknames: Madam, Mona Lisa, the Sphinx, the Enigma – all gathered during the

years 1991-96 when she kept the Congress Party guessing about her

She says: of her first meeting with Rajiv: "As our eyes met. I could feel my heart pounding. We greeted each other, and as far as I was concerned it was love at first sight" Critics say: "Would Italy accept an Indian as prime minister?" Hindu nationalist politician Bal Thackeray

sway of an "Italian housewife" with serious misgivings, these are more than matched by those of the lady berself. After ber husband Rajiv'a death, the Congress Party, in a display of stunning arrogance and insensitivity, elected ber president without taking her opinion on the matter. But she refused to toe the line: she rejected the office. Deprived of Gandhis, and lacking any other effective glue, Congress flailed.

These were the years, the early Nineties, when Congress, which for most of the previous 40 years had ruled India (with brief interludes in opposition) as if by divine gress's unquestioned leader because the right, began to fall apart. It was riven by in the land.

years on it was a wounded giant, its vast potential still unfulfilled, while Japan and China - and even Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia - raced ahead. Congress, India's natural party of government, had to take the hlame.

Yet more than failure, more than corruption, it was the lack of a dynastic heir that troubled Congress most deeply. So faction-ridden had the party become, that only a Gandhi could hold it together.

Installed in her guarded and heavily reinforced Lutyens hungalow at Number 10 Janpath, New Delhi, tending the Gandhi legacy, editing her mother-in-law's letters and her husband's photographs, Sonia Gandhi received an endless stream of Congress Party grandees imploring ber to take command. She smiled and listened and sent them on their way.

Because while Jawaharlal Nehru (the son of an important figure in Congress1 and Indira Gandhi and Sanjay and Rajiv were all, to a greater or lesser extent, groomed for power, reared with the smell of power in their nostrils, Sonia Gandhi's case was very different

She was born Sonia Maino, the daughter of a small-time provincial builder in Orbassano near Turin, in 1946. She passed a provincial Italian childhood of hlameless hlankness. Then, at age 18, she went to Cambridge - not, as is often flatteringly written, to attend the university there, but to work as an au pair and study English as a foreign language.

Rajiv was studying mechanical engineering at Trinity College when they first met. She had no idea who he was: at the time she had only the vaguest idea about India, "with its snakes, elephants and jungles", she wrote, "Exactly where it was and what it was all about, I was not sure."

Overriding strong objections from her father, she followed Rajiv back to India, married him in a Hindu ceremony and as Indira's trusted daughter-in-law, began her long apprenticeship in what it means to be a member of the all-powerful Nehru-Gandhi dynasty.

What it has meant for this European woman from a modest and conventional background is a life of terrifying excess: excess of fame and public exposure, excess of power, excess of adulation, excess of peril and suffering. It has meant an excess of all these things, not through deliherate choice and ambition hut without choice. through a sort of karmic inevitability.

Her husband Rajiv had no hunger and little aptitude for politics; if his brother Sanjay had not killed himself performing a stupid stunt, he would have continued with the career he loved, as an airline pilot. Instead his brother died and the dreadful dynastic vortex sucked him into politics: and then his mother died and the same vortex sucked Rajiv into the highest office



Sonia Gandhi, after years of refusing to get involved, threw herself into leading Congress

To her credit, Sonia Gandhi has never concealed her feelings about all this. She hated it, and she fought "like a tigress", as she said, to prevent it happening. But the vortex was too strong. When Indira Gandhi was shot by her bodyguard. Sonia was on the sceoe at once, cradling her mother-inlaw's dying body. A mere seveo years later, when Rajiv died, there was nobody to cradle: the Tamil Tiger suicide homber's device had blown him to pieces.

Throughout the Nineties. Sonia Gandhi has resisted the vortex of Indian politics. She stayed in Delhi, a "sphinx". an "enigma" to the Indian journalists whose request for interviews she invariably turned down. She met everyone who mattered, domestically and internationally; a trip to 10 Janpath was on the itinerary of every visiting naboh. But she kept her own counsel. For Congress, consigned now to opposition, she became the great imponderable, the party's one hopeless hope.

Then, quite suddenly, in 1997 she changed ber mind. She joined the party with which she was so closely identified. She made angry speeches, chastising government for the sluggishness of the inquiry into Rajiv's death. In December 1997 a general election was called, and after an agony of suspense Sonia Gandhi threw herself into the campaign.

The effect was electric. Congress immediately came back to life, and the BJP. which had seemed be heading for a famous victory, faltered. Sonia started her campaign at a place called Sriperumbudur, the small town outside Madras where ber husband had been murdered. Her delivery, in strongly accented English, was wooden, her response to the cheers of the crowd timid and hesitant. But the speech she gave hit all the right buttons: ber busband's martyrdom, her widow's pain, ber love and devotion to India.

It was intensely personal, but then the whole significance of her involvement in politics is indeed deeply personal. That is why she matters.

In the great Gandhi tradition, Sonia kept up a ferocious schedule of engagements during the election campaign, crisscrossing the vast country hy car and helicopter, addressing millions of people. The result was not the return to power of which Congress had dreamed, but a coovincing recovery. The rot had been stopped.

She has not wavered since. Last spring, she was unanimously elected party presideot. As such, she has quickly proved far more than a figurehead getting closely involved in the selection of parliamentary candidates and hanning destructive battle to come. parliamentary tactics.

The BJP responded by ignoring her as far as they could. But at the same time the Hindu nationalist right adopted a more oblique and sinister tactic: they persuaded their extremist allies, especially a group called Bajrang Dal, to launch unprovoked attacks on Christians in many different parts of India. In the worst case, in February, an Australian missionary and his two small sons were hurned to death in their Jeep.

The Hindu nationalist high command will never accept responsibility for these assaults, but few doubt that they are ultimately to blame. The idea, it appears, was to goad Mrs Gandhi into standing up for the Christian victims, thus enabling her enemies to identify her with the weak and marginal Christian community, who constitute only about 5 per cent of India's

It was a dirty tectic, to which Sonia Gandhi responded with circumspection and cunning: by undertaking a pilgrimage to Hindu sacred sites. The war on Christians was a warning to Sonia of the crude attacks she must now learn to weather. This past week of high political drama in Delhi has been a second blooding. Now this improbable figure is truly braced for the

PETER POPHAM

THE MOST potent icons of the cinema are those who made the shrewd if drastic career move of dying young - among them Marilyn Monroe and James Dean and, perhaps above all, Rudolf Valentino. The appearance of Valentino's brother Alberto, who survived into old age, suggests that, had he lived, the Great Lover might bave ended his days looking rather like Coronation Street's Albert Tatlock. As it was, Valentino's death in 1926 at the age of 31, from peritonitis brought on by a perforated ulcer, immortalised

him as rakishly handsome. Valentino was also a sexual predator, irresistibly selfish and domin-shot her estranged husband. Seneering. But he was not much like his sibly, be then moved to Hollywood, screen alter ego. In reality be was changed his name, and landed some

gentle and weak-willed, possibly bisexual, and certainly dominated by his second wife Natacha Rambova (whose real name was the marginally less exotic Winifred Hudnut). Valentino's real name was Rod-

olfo Guglielmi, and although the myth persists that his family were illiterate Italian peasants, the more prosaic truth is that they were middle class; his father was a veterinary surgeon. Nevertheless, Rodolfo emigrated to America when he was 18, and worked as a night-cluh dancer in New York. Here he became embroiled in the scandalous To millions of American women De Saulles case, which erupted when a celebrated society heauty



RUDOLPH VALENTINO, FILM STAR

minor film roles, before his powerful performance in The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse (1921) turned him into a star to rival the arch-

swasbbuckler Douglas Fairbanks. Valentino's rolling eyes and quivering nostrils, which rolled and quivered even more spectacularly in his second major film, The Sheik (also 1921), look absurd by today's standards of acting. But he took America - and, in particular, Amer-

lcan women - by storm. The Sheik, though an inferior film to Four Horsemen, was a box-office sensation, and "Sheik-mania" swept the country, inspiring the hit song, "The Sheik of Araby", and even influeoc-

ing interior design. Men, meanwhile, were less enamoured of Valentino. They didn't mind their wives and girlfriends falling for the all-American Fairbanks, hut Valentino. darn it, was a

foreigner. When powder-dispensing machines started appearing in meo's washrooms, the hlame fell squarely on Valentino, who was Powder Puff" and felt obliged to defend his reputation by staging an exhibition boxing match refereed by Jack Dempsey. But criticism of him gathered ferocity. "Why didn't someone quietly drown Rudolf Guglielmi, alias Valentino, years ago?" won-

dered the Chicago Tribune. career, like his marriage to Rambova, was on the rocks. But cynical sequels are by no means a modern phenomenon, and the success of The Son of the Sheik (1925) revived some of his dagging appeal. It took his death, however, to restore the Valentino, icon, was laid to rest.

star to the heights of his former popularity. And then some. The death of Valentino made headlines all over the world, and the mass hysteria at promptly nicknamed "The Pink his funeral was crowned by the melodramatic performance of his lover, the actress Pola Negri, whose convulsions of grief would not have disgraced The Sheik.

Behind the anguish, there seems little doubt that Negri spotted a great PR opportunity. She asked for Valentino's coffin to be covered with By the mid-Twenties. Valentino's a blanket of white roses, with red roses in the centre spelling out the name POLA in foot-high letters. To her barely concealed fury, the funeral organisers refused. And so she had to settle for collapsing in what appeared to be a dead faint as Rudolf



Crossing the borderline

WE'RE IN Smithie's pub, in Edinburgh's elegant Georgian Newtown, watching Manchester United beat Juventus. The beers are unfamiliar

- Deuchars, Caledonian and McEwan's 80/-. Not a pint of Speckled Hen to be had. But around the table everyone is English. There is even a motif of St George's flag on a mirror nearby, albeit alongside the blue of the St Andrew's flag.

Suddenly, Dwight Yorke breaks through, weaving towards goal only to be felled by the 'keeper before Andy Cole scores United's winner. Everyone, Scots and English alike, rises and roars with delight. We're all on the same side to cheer Alex Ferguson, Scotland's greatest football brain, lead England's greatest cluh to European success. But Justin Woodroffe, educated at

Westminster public school and an émigre from a smart home in Chelsea, is recalling last year's World Cup. when the English gathered at Smithie's to cheer Glenn Hoddle's men. "I remember being on the train to London during the England Colombia match," says Justin, just 21 but with a cut-glass accent apparently modified by ancestral indulgence in fine port and cigars. "I had a mini TV with me and all the Scots were cheering the opposition. But when we reached London, I sbook hands with them and there were no hard feelings."

It was a charitable reaction. But others may easily feel, given the rise of Scottish nationalism, that life north of the Border is less welcoming than in the days before Mel Gihson took to the kilt and whooped the English in Braveheart. I want to find out if the Anglos feel threatened.

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The first problem is finding the Anglos. It is very easy to insult someone who may sound as though he was raised somewhere near Buckingham Palace, but quickly protests that he is broad Scottish and can trace his ancestors back to the Battle of Bannockburn. For example, Magnus Linklater, chair of the Scottisb Arts Council and son of Eric Linklater from Orkney, would certainly consider himself Scottish. But Eton took its toll: "I find that the occasional Glasgow taxi driver and people I don't know from Adam ask me when I am going back, or have

I been here long."
Having sorted the posh Scots from the Anglos, the next step is to discover where they congregate. The Anglos do not have an expat network; they like to muck in with what the Scots do. Ljustin has even sampled a deep-fried Mars bar.) Unlike Ireland and post-colonial societies such as Zimbabwe (where the Anglo-Irish and the old Rhodesians make sure their farms back on to one another and where each community likes to pray and party together), here the Anglos melt in. But if you want to flush them out in

one spot, football is the key.

My friends watching United in Smithie's definitely are English. And they are used to questions about fitting in during an upsurge of Scottisb nationalism. "Every time I phone home they mention it," says Justin, who works for an upmarket letting agent in Edinburgh. "They feel strongly that Scotland is being taken away from them. They can't see the good side of what is happening. My brother thinks Scotland is breaking up the Crown."

Others around the table nod in agreement, drinking whiskys and vodka (no one touches the beer). So what are the beoefits? Jane Rodger launches forth enthusiastically. Aged 35 now, she left London five years ago to become head of department at a bank in Edinburgh. She talks about her Scottish friends, about how Scottishness is inclusive. "I feel I'm a part of it all. I'll go along to a ceilidh and feel welcome." "You're right." says Justin. "They come and take your hand and whisk you off."

For someone like Jane, genteelly middle-class. Scottishness does not mean anti-English, it means feeling comfortable, finding something that perhaps got lost in her stressful yuppie life back in London. "Coming to Scotland is like being in England 20 years ago in terms of values and courtesy. People say 'thank you' when they get off the bus. They are polite on the telephone. A feature of city life in London is that you frequently feel isolated. Here there is more community."

Jane is typical of many English enthusiasts living in Scotland. They are here seeking out something. You will find them up in the Highlands sending their children to schools where they will learn Gaelic.

Typically the English are moderate Scottish nationalists: in the 1992 election almost as large a proportion of them backed the SNP as was the case among native Scots. The Anglos are usually pro-Scottish parliament, hut against independence. Separation would be a step too far, cutting them off from their roots, while the parliament makes the place they have come to more important, less provincial.



Justin Woodroffe, right, and Edouard Sebline in the Smithie's pub in Edinburgh

history of art student at Edinburgh University, sips on his whisky: He doubts that nationalism has a hard dge. "My great-aunt." says Edouard, son of a Kent insurance broker, "has lived here for more than 65 years and of course she has an English accent.

"She says that she has seen the change in national feeling very recently. I feel it is contrived because it helps sell newspapers and suits some politicians. I don't feel it is deep-seated."

I suspect that the English here do not feel threatened by nationalism. because it is anti-metropolitan more than it is anti-English. When the SNP leader Alex Salmond stirs up feeling against "London Labour", his words are reminiscent of William Cohbett's rantings in the 1820s against the such as Oxford and Cambridge. As

Edouard Sehline, 21. an urbane English capital, which he considered Christopher Harvie says: "The Yah' a tumour and called the "Great Wen". "These are sentiments," says Christopher Harvie, author of the recent study, Scotland and Nationalism. "which you are just as likely to hear in Hull or Newcastle."

There is, of course, violence against the Englisb. There are occasional stories along the lines of "my daughter was spat on in the playground because she was English", which the London press leaps on. But one suspects that these stories are often over-simplifications, where nationality has become conflated with other disputes.

Listening to Justin and Edouard. it is clear that alcohol plays a big role in English-Scot conflicts, which sound very like the town vs gown battles found in university towns

factor is important. If you go into a pub and shout across the bar, "Hilary, are we going up to your Daddy's place in Cromarty for the ball?', the wee Marys tend to get a

Justin and Edouard, each of whom has lived in Scotland for several years, are - like most young people who have encountered pub violence - acutely aware of where the fault line runs between the Scots and the English.

here," says Justin. "I was with my best friend, who is Scottish, and there were 200,000 people on Princes Street singing Flower of Scotland. I said, 'Hey, this is a bit naa stare which said, 'Don't mess'. With that harsh glance, someone who had

a bit like the instructions on a trea-

sure map, but instead of taking "12

steps to the north, then 30 to nor'

east", you pass through a long white

corridor which echoes to the Smashy

and Nicey gibberings of daytime

Radio 2. then you go up an escalator, down one floor in a lift, and along a

corridor to a locked door where you

pick up a phone to gain admittance.

A young bloke directs you to a "self-

operating studio", in fact a

claustrophobic cubicle containing

little more than chair, table, micro-

Except that my studio was already

occupied. An old geezer had obvi-

ously set up shop for the day in there,

with books and papers scattered

over every surface. He was not best

pleased at being disturbed. "Are you

in here? What, now?" With some re-

luctance, be gathered up his library

into several plastic bags and lurched

out. In the midst of the kerfuffle, he

knocked the earphones on to the floor

and I promptly trod on them. The de-

vice was in several bits when I

picked it up. A wee Scottish voice

was tweeting from the earpieces:

"Hello, Mr Weasei. Are you there?"

gramme will omit the grunting and

about astronomical nomenclature?

Regular readers of this column may

recall my delighted discovery that on

Venus there are places called

Christie (after Agatha) and Sayers

(after Dorothy Li. Mystery solved.

I imagine the completed pro-

phone and earphones.

been a close friend for four years let me know where the borderline is." How far then, I ask, could the Scots go in their nationalism before my drinking partners felt threatened? Justin orders another vodka and tells a story.
"I was in this pub watching a

match with a load of English people and these five Scots came in making a real nuisance of themselves, shouting about the English. They were even pulling at the girls' hair. And people just let them get on with "I realised on New Year's Eve up it. It was only when they picked on a hlack bloke and called him a nigger that everyone got upset and we got angry with them.

"That was a real eye-opener. It was when it stopped being patriotic tionalistic', and my friend gave me and became racist that we wouldn't put up with it any longer."

THE WEEKLY MUSE BY MARTIN NEWELL



A hailstorm hits the terrace To warn that summer's coming And rattles on the skylights A syncopated drumming As glistening in the gutters The hailstones fuse together The Devil's own confetti At the marriage of the weather.

The sixth of May approaches And the politicians wait While the dog of devolution Gnaws the ancient bones of state As a ghostly Roman soldier Who is haunting Hadrian's Wall On a wet and windy evening Hears a Pictish warrior call: "So Gordon Brown has done it Stemmed SNP advances But six Scats in the Cahinet? He couldn't take the chances Though miracles allowing If Labour seats should fall The way the mood's been lately We might rebuild you wall." "A good idea," the Roman said With rising tax no doubt You'd need to keep your people in More than to keep us out."

With dentists on the NHS More rare than dung of rocking-horse Britannia's teeth are in a mess No prize for guessing why of course Or when it was the rot set in Or who was in the driver's seat And sacrificed free dental care To hoast a better balance sheet.

But nice to hear Rab Butler's thoughts Endorsed, if not exhumed, of late As Peter Lilley praised in speech The virtues of the welfare state And pledge of funds to keep it safe For people of the poorer sort. Let's have a clack of blackened teeth And demonstrate our full support:

So fiddle on, Dave Swarbrick Though poorly, not deceased Who found his own obituary Was premature at least. But most musicians know this Although it goes unsaid: Miss two nights in the taproom Your mates all think you're dead.

THE WEASEL

Pictures at an exhibition evoke memories of a Sixties few people saw, while the stars come under scrutiny in a trip to Broadcasting House

DIAMOND GEEZERS, Ronnie and Reggie. Anyone out east will tell you that. They'd do anything for you, especially if it involved dislocating your jaw or breaking your leg in a couple of places. Nothing was too much trouble. If need be, they'd even do you in entirely. They were

These happy memories came flooding back at the Barbican the other day when I saw the new David Bailey exhibition. The very first snap is a handsome likeness of the twins, looking sharp in some classy threads, accompanied by their pet snakes, Gerrard and Nipper. People often ask me how you could tell them apart. Simple. The snakes are the ones with the warmer eyes.

Not that I ever had the pleasure of meeting R and R myself. But, about a quarter of a century ago, I once worked for a publisher on a book of Bailey's photographs. No, I didn't actually meet him either, if you must know. But I was given a signed orint as a souvenir. It's a moody landscape, only slightly marred because someone smudged the signature with a wet finger to find out wbether it was real. On these slender grounds, I see myself as something

of an authority on the great lensman. Entitled Birth of the Cool - a title borrowed from an album by Miles Davis, who also appears in one of the photographs - the Barbican show is mainly devoted to Bailey's work in the Sixties. Like lots of other people, I seem to have missed out on the more celebrated aspects of that decade. Who was it who said that their Sixties consisted of standing around in a car park, waiting for the rain to stop? I'm sorry to say that I never glugged Moët et Chandon with Penelope Tree or strolled with the Rolling Stones at Avebury (the ludicrous green shades worn by Keith Richards slightly detract from the mystic nature of the scene). My Sixties were more like the dingy East End shop-fronts photographed by Bailey, which could have come straight out of Dombey & Son. (One establishment boasts of its speciality in "Surgical Boot Repairs", which might have come in handy after a meeting with Ron and Reg.)

In his Harry Palmer persona, a Disque Bleu dangling from his lips, Michael Caine looks the epitome of Sixties cool, which is more than can be said for David Puttnam, Leaping zanily in 1965, he is a spit for Gerry of

the Pacemakers. One wall of the show contrasts portraits from that era with more recent studies. Ollie Reed looks absurd vet dangerous in 1965, while Noel and Liam look plain absurd in 1995.



impressive decked out as Josephine Baker in 1990, but PJ Proby is somewhat less convincing in a Christ-like pose from 1965.

But the undisputed star of the show is Jean Shrimpton. Has ever a model drawn better work from a photographer, or vice versa? Whether clad in a battered trenchcoat at Tower Bridge or smiling gorgeously on a tropical beach, her hair still wet from the sea, she is incomparable. In 1964, she even managed to look magnificent beside Hank B Marvin. (At the time, the strummer was essaying a goatee beard along with his trademark horn-rims, a combination that became fashionable only 35 years later.)

Though Bailey never saw fit to photograph the adolescent Weasel in close proximity to the Shrimp, I may have had a fleeting encounter with her in later years. Sensibly ditching the world of fashion, she became a successful hoteber in Pen-

BRIEFLY DISCARDING his fur mask. the Weasel makes his radio début next week as a contributor to a series of 15-minute programmes called Naming the Universe (Radio 4, Monday-Friday, 3.30pm). I wouldn't be so vain as to mention it, except for the strange experience of my first-ever visit to Broadcasting House (or BH. as we old pros call it) where I was interviewed "down the line" from

Glasgow. This is what bappens. After you enter under Epstein's notorious sculpture of an anatomically correct Ariel, a security guard gives you directions on a slip of paper. These are

Naomi Campbell is rather zance. A couple of years ago, I had cursing that accompanied my on the to pass the night in this Cornisb re-sort and made my way to what I spot repairs to the bead-set, but I doubt if the producers will be able to thought was her establishment. A transmute my panting contribution striking-looking woman behind the into the soigne delivery of an Alvar Liddell, One final point may be puzcounter apologised and said they were full up. Just like the Sixties all zling you, as it has puzzled most of my friends. Viz: what the blue hlazes over again. is the Weasel doing on a programme

> THE CENTENARY of the birth of Noël Coward has prompted the publication of his revues of the Twenties, such as On With the Dance and Sigh No More. "A sketch for a revue must be sharp, funny and to the point, with a good, really good hlack-out line," insisted the Master. "Whether the performers are naked or wearing crinolines is beside the point, the same

rule applies." I'm pleased to see that the art of the revue is still alive and well at the Albany Theatre in Deptford, Admittedly the treats on offer, which include "local legend" Rubber Johnny and "Lewisham-based freakshow" Shagnasty, do not sound much like

Sir Noël's blithe triumphs. But, as long as they have a really good black-out line, I'm sure he would approve.

DAYS LIKE THESE

24 APRIL 1949

JULIEN GREEN. American writer living in Paris,

"Read the Introduction to Kierkegaard by Jolivet Few books have upset me so much since I came into this world. It is borrifying at times to discover oneself in another man, and this happened to me when I



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read this book. But isn't it the role of very great men to reveal us to ourselves? I mean that they teach us what we knew without knowing that we knew it. In this sense, Kierkegaard's sentences are like so many magic mirrors where the soul is reflected and sees itself for the first time."

26 APRIL 1915

WNP BARBELLION. naturalist and writer, notes in his journal:

In the spirit of pious resignation Thomas a Kempis wrote: Meddle not with things that be too high for thee, but study such things as yield compunction to the beart rather than elevation to the bead. I like to put alongside this the delightful passage from Sir Thomas Browne's Religio: 'I love to lose myself in a mystery, to pursue my reason to an O altitudo! This my solitary recreation to pose my apprehension with those involved enigmas and riddle of the Trinity, Incarnation and Resurrection.' Recreation is great!

"I have always meddled with things that are too high for me, my first adventure being Berkeley at the age of 15, a philosopher who captured my amazement over a period of many months. Like a little London gamin, I run about the great city of the mind and hang on hehind the hig motor lorries of thought. Looked at from the point of view of multiplicity, duration disintegrates into a powder of moments, none of which endures, each being an instantaniety.' No matter if I do not understand Bergson: in a sentence like that I catch at least the rumour of some tremendous thought. It is like putting one's ear to a telegraph pole on top of a wind-swept heath..."

26 APRIL 1972

NED ROREM, composer, writes in his journal:

"It is important to be alive. For every Sylvia Plath who made a living out of dying, 20 good poets' credit is cancelled by death. Death does not reduce a painter's cachet, since his work is an investment; but an original manuscript by a Plath isn't 'worth' anything. No sooner does an artist die than his work locates itself, becomes less urgent, asks to be balanced and judged."

IAN IRVINE



THE SATURDAY ESSAY

حكذا من الاصل

It is 50 years old, but what has Nato got to celebrate?



MICHAEL HOWARD

The idea of dismantling the Western alliance has been raised, usually on the other side of the Atlantic

THIS MONTH Nato celebrates its golden anniversary, but the weekend's celebrations in Washington are unlikely to be so cheerful as those held in Loodon a few weeks ago. A month is a long time in politics, especially if war happens to have broken out in the meantime.

So, far from being an exercise in selfcongratulation, the meeting is more likely to be a worried council of war - a kind of war that the Alliance has never fought, and was never intended to fight,

Nato still has much to congratulate itself about. It can rightly claim to bave fulfilled all its original aims, which were well defined by its first Secretary General, Lord Ismay, as being to keep the Americans in the Russians out, and the Germans down. The Americans became deeply committed to the defence of Western Europe against what was perceived, rightly or wrongly, as a Soviet threat of military conquest. The Federal Republic of Germany was peacefully absorbed into a Western Europe whose unity its leaders played a major role in creating. Whether the Soviet threat was exaggerated or not, American protection enabled Western Europe to recover its nerve politically and to create an economy wealthy beyond any historical precedent. The price paid was the abandonment of Central and Eastern Europe to Soviet control; but, even there, the stability created by the Iron Curtain

was preferable to a third World War. Now the Cold War is over, and Nato can take much of the credit; not just for keeping it cold, but for bringing it to an end at the earliest possible moment with a remarkable absence of bitterness on either side. "The German Problem" is now history. The Soviet Union no longer exists. For the past 10 years, therefore, the Allies have been debating bow to reconstruct the Alliance to meet an entirely new situation.

The idea of dismantling Nato altogether has occasionally been raised, usually on the other side of the Atlantic, but never taken seriously. Nato is not just a military alliance: it is an institution, with a large military and civil bureaucracy whose members have a vested interest in its survival. The armed forces of the smaller European powers make no sense except within the Alliance framework, while the Germans still see the Alliance as a necessary legitimisation of their own military power. Most of them would agree that the renationalisation of European armed forces would be a foolish, if not dangerous. retrograde step; Nato provides for Europeans a "security community" that guarantees them against threats not only from outside but also from one another. Also, it does so on the cheap: the Americans still provide all the expensive hardware and infrastructure, the cost of which would severely erode even the wealthiest European economy.

The American interest in Nato is more subtle. The United States still feels itself deeply committed to the preservation of world order. Its enemies may see this order as a begemony based on economic motives, its friends share the belief that it is a genvine and admirable moral commitment: but in any case it is a burden that the Americans are reluctant to carry on their own. They need to believe that when they do intervene to protect or restore that order, they are doing so on behalf of the "international community".

Initially, they boped that this community



Harry Truman, US President, signing the ratification of the North Atlantic pact at the White House in Washington in July 1949

might be embodied in the United Nations. For a few golden years at the end of the Cold War, when the Russians were compliant supplicants if not partners for the United States, and the Chinese were post-Tianenmen pariahs, perhaps it really was. But this is no longer the case; the UN is seen as being too divided in its councils to provide a supportive consensus for American policy. Now the "international community" is, for the United States, its like-minded partners in Nato, whose cooperation it seeks in order to legitimise its actions. For Washington the military importance of Nato may have dwindled with the end of the Cold War, but the political significance of the Alliance is greater than ever. In consequence the Americans, so far from wishing to wind up Nato. have sought to expand both its membership and its field of action beyond the strict defensive limits of Europe and North America that are laid down in the text of the treaty. "Out of area," as one American congressman brutally pnt it, "or out of business".

Throughout the first 50 years of its existence, the members of the Alliance quarrelled bitterly over two major issues: the requirements of nuclear deterrence and the desirability of political detente. The literature dealing with these subjects was as voluminous, and is now as irrelevant, as theological tomes debating the Real Presence. Recently Nato has been wrestling with three very different problems: the expansion of membership: the assumption of responsibilities "out of area"; and the development within the Alliance of a distinct European element, a "European Security and Defence Identity", to match the growing political and economic unity of the continent. So the Allies bad plenty on their minds even before they became involved in the third Balkan war.

Let us take the last issue first. In principle, the Americans have been supportive of a distinctive European contribution to the Alliance. Ever since the days of John F Kennedy they have been urging the Europeans to combine so as to take their fair share of the burden of their own defence. and to create a "second pillar" for Nato. More recently they have seen the additional advantage of a European force that might be used in situations where domestic

public opinion would not permit the commitment of US troops, but for which the US might provide the necessary logistical support. Among Europeans, the French have been most eager to see this develop: a separate command of this kind would provide them with the opportunity to exert military leadership in Europe and counterbalance the Anglo-Saxon dominance they so much resent. The Maastricht Treaty. with its commitment to a commoo European defence and foreign policy, provided the catalyst for a renewed initiative, but one which both the Americans and the Britisb have regarded with deep suspicion. So for a decade the Allies have been wrangling over the possibility of creating what they term "combined joint task forces", which would be "separable but not separate" (an endlessly repeated mantra, producing mountains of paper, clouds of new acronyms, and a general atmosphere in Brussels of cynical confusion. Recently Mr Blair has tried to show what a good European he is by sinking his differences with the French, but "the European defence identity" remains a concept that has yet to be clothed with flesh.

Secondly there is Nato expansion - an issue over which the Alliance is still deeply divided, though not on national lines. On the one side are those who see Nato primarily as a mutually supportive alliance of democracies to which any like-minded state is entitled to belong, especially those who suffered for so long under Soviet oppression. On the other are those concerned with the military and political effectiveness of an Alliance that can barely function with 16 members, and for whom More will inevitably mean Worse. They are joined by Realpolitikers for whom good relations with Russia take precedence over sentimental feelings towards small states in Central Europe who are more likely to prove military liabilities rather than assets.

and in any case have nowhere else to go. The decision to admit Poland. Hungary and the Czech Republic was taken in Wasbington largely in response to ethnic domestic pressures, and on the urging of a Czech-born Secretary of State. These three states can certainly claim to have been arbitrarily separated from a West to which they culturally belong, but their ad-

mission opens a Pandora's box; especially since it has been officially declared that they will not be the last. Who next? Hungary's admission makes little strategic sense unless it is joined by its neighbour Slovenia. The French will not rest content without the admission of their traditional ally Romania, and can Bulgaria then be left isolated between Romania and Turkey? And what about the Baltic states - the only ones who might still need protection against the Russians? For the unfortunate military staffs whose task it is to integrate the wildly differing armed forces of these countries into the Alliance's structure and plan their integrated defence, the prospect is a nightmare.

If it could be accepted that the collapse of the Soviet Union implies that Nato need no longer be regarded as a serious military alliance, but simply as a "security community" of friendly and like-minded nations, a sort of inner circle of the Partnership for Peace, then no problem arises. Membership could then be mended almost indefinitely, and the swords could be beaten, if not into ploughshares, then into bayonets for purely ceremonial use. But that is not the way the United States sees which brings us to the final problem: 'Out of Area".

"More means Worse" not just for military planners but also for political decisionmakers. Even over issues narrowly concerned with area defence, it has always been a herculean task to get agreement between Copenhagen, Lisbon, Rome, Oslo, Paris. London and Washington, not to mention Athens and Ankara. To toss Warsaw, Prague, Budapest, Bucharest and possibly Vilnius into this cauldron can result only in political boil-and-bubble with a minimum of positive result. Any suggestion of supporting United States intervention anywhere outside the European area, unless it bears the imprimatur of the United Nations or directly threatens common European interests, is likely to provoke strong domestic dissent in every member of the Alliance. The more widely membership of the Alliance is extended, the more likely

is this to be the case. The exception, of course, is the Balkans that squalling fosterchild deposited on the lap of the European Powers by the dying from 1980 to 1989

MY WEEK

HUGH C RAE, ROMANTIC NOVELIST,

WHO WRITES AS JESSICA STIRLING

Ottoman Empire a century and a half ago. The Balkans are hardly "out of area" for Greece, Turkey or Hungary, and would not be for Slovenia, Bulgaria or Romania were they to join. The region has always played a large if unwelcome role in the foreign policies of France, Britain and Italy, it is of special interest to Russia, and in consequence to Realpolitikers in the United Slates. Nato has, in fact, inherited the mantle of the European Powers which repeatedly found themselves compelled collectively to intervene in the region between 1875 and 1914, when their involvement escalated into a global conflict whose

consequences pushed the region on to the back-burner for the rest of the century. Now it is back on the agenda. The European members of the Alliance are involved, not as loval allies supporting and legitimising an American-inspired intervention, but as the legatees of the old Concert of Europe and thus principal actors in their own right. The United States is involved, not just to pull European chestnuts out of the fire for them, but also in a moral crusade against evil - and this is a point as constantly and skilfully made to them by the British Prime Minister today

as it was 60 years ago - of the kind that they believed they were waging in both World Wars, Suddenly the Alliance bas found a purpose to justify its existence to the most sceptical of its critics. It is still far too soon to pronounce judgement on the effectiveness of Nato intervention in Kosovo and its consequences for the Alliance. Nato will probably "win", but it could be at a cost that so

embitters relations between the Allies as to make future co-operation almost impossible. More probably, the difficulties and hazards of the operation will draw them closer together. But almost certainly the result will be a lasting commitment to policing the region, of a kind that the Powers

before 1914 did their very best to avoid. The Balkans may or may not be "out of area", but either way they are likely to keep the Alliance "in business" for a very long time to come.

The author was Regius Professor of modern history at Oxford University

BAROMETER

SEAN O'GRADY



Leaders' Wives section of The Ffion Hague wore this saristyle dress to a do for Asian businessmen. The striking outfit was made from exquisite turquoise silk cost £400 and was the work of the talented young

designer Raishma Islam. But this didn't stop it and Ffion – getting mixed press reviews along the lines of "un-fflattering ffashion ffiasco". Time to turn the tide. The Ffion Ffan Ffederation (Unofficial) is now open, membership is free, and you don't have to be a Conservative, or even like ber bubby much, to join. Contact s.ogrady@independent.co.uk or 0171-293 2032. Fion flights back

Nice Neanderthals It may be a popular term of abuse, but "Neanderthal" derives, of course, from the type of primitive hominid whose remains were first discovered in the Neander valley. Germany, in 1856. Ever since, we've thought that the Neanderthals were unrelated to us bumans. But just look at this reconstruction



of Neanderthal domesticity provided by the Natural History Museum. Flintstones-like, the scene has much resonance for Homo sapiens, with its quarrelling juveniles and Mr Neanderthal's garment of choice, a tasselled suede jacket. Unprepossessing they may seem, but Mr and Mrs Neanderthal obviously had more sex appeal then we have given them credit for. Archaeologists bave just discovered a "missing link" that suggests that when Cro-Magnon early men met the Neanderthals in what is now Spain, they did not, as previously thought, just wipe them out, but instead got down to making whoopee and bybrid babies. So just remember: there's a little bit of Neanderthal in all of us.

The vine weevil, a real-life millennium bug, is thriving as never before and is about



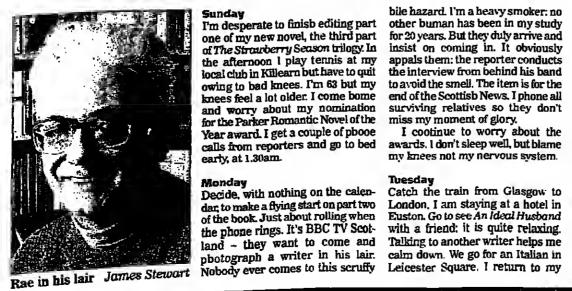
Evil weevil

food is your favourite flower, so if you cherish your begonias

choose the lesser of two weevils and consult the Vine Weevil Advice Centre: www.vine.weevil.org.uk

image of the week A majestic portrait by Andrew Buurman, of Sylvester the iguana, a miniature Godzilla dumped in a field of sheep and rescued by the wonderful and dedicated RSPCA.





I'm desperate to finish editing part one of my new novel, the third part of The Strawberry Season trilogy. In the afternoon I play tennis at my local club in Killearn but have to quit owing to bad knees. I'm 63 but my knees feel a lot older. I come bome and worry about my nomination for the Parker Romantic Novel of the Year award. I get a couple of phone calls from reporters and go to bed earty, at 1.30am.

Decide, with nothing on the calendar, to make a flying start on part two of the book. Just about rolling when the phone rings. It's BBC TV Scotland - they want to come and photograph a writer in his lair. calm down. We go for an Italian in

bile hazard. I'm a heavy smoker: no other buman has been in my study for 20 years. But they duly arrive and insist on coming in. It obviously appals them: the reporter conducts the interview from behind his band to avoid the smell. The item is for the end of the Scottisb News. I phone all surviving relatives so they don't miss my moment of glory. I cootinue to worry about the

awards. I don't sleep well, but blame

my knees not my nervous system. Catch the train from Glasgow to London, I am staying at a hotel in Euston. Go to see An Ideal Husband with a friend; it is quite relaxing.

Talking to another writer helps me

hotel and call my dearly beloved wife, done quite a lot of radio in Scotland Liz. After a chat I worry about not getting enough sleep. I read Peter Ackroyd's biography of Thomas More. He's lucky not to have been

nominated for the award. Martyr-

dom looks easy by comparison.

Wednesday Get up. have breakfast and put on the dreaded blue suit worn only for other people's funerals. I'm doing an interview for Radio 5 Live; John Humphrys is the oresenter I've

and feel confident. Although in Scotland the BBC stick you in a closet, bere the mere cleanliness of

the studio makes me feel important. I'm taken to meet the seven other short-listed writers for a photo shoot. I am the only man - the token doddery male grump. Someone produces a red rose and wants me to put it between my teeth, the beight of banality and a line I decide

not to cross. More photos in front of Eros in remained steady for years.

Piccadilly Circus. I manage to Thursday smoke about six fags undetected. Passers-by regard us with mild curiosity: obviously too old for models, maybe a terrorist group?

At the lunch, Derek Parker announces the winner, a young girl called Claire. It's only her third novel. I feel a sense of relief. My only disappointment is not winning the five grand. I've never been interested fame and glory.

I have a couple of glasses of red wine and chew the fat with some friends. I call my wife to check she has recorded ER. She is mildly disappointed by the results. She enjoyed my crime novels more and is quite sorry that I gave them up. Unfortunately, romantic novels make more mooey and Jessica has

Buy two bags of Thorntons chocolates, a romantic gesture of a practical nature, and the papers. None carries any news of the awards. Thank God I'm back to work tomorrow. I read the papers, drink coffee and smoke several packets of cigarettes on the train. At home I check no one has stolen the squirrels from

the garden. Unfortunately not, I

watch ER and unplug the phone.

Look at part two of my novel. I am feeling rather optimistic as I pick up the 1899 copy of The Forester for my research. It's been a hectic, worrying week. I have enjoyed myself. though I would probably have had more fun if I hadn't been nominated. INTERVIEW BY DAISY PRICE

Regina Gillinson-Schein

THE CELLIST Regina Gillinsonschein would seem to hold the ecord for ubiquity in a profession where ubiquity is for most a way of ife. She was a fine musician who played under many great conductors and partnered some of the most accomplished musicians of her time, while her adventures and romances read like a novel.

She was born Regina Schein in 1908 in Zurich into a family of Russian Jewish musicians and watchmakers who had settled in Switzerland after escaping from the ghetto in Ekaterinoslav in Russia. She began her studies on the piano but when her teacher hit her knuckles with a ruler she retaliated, thereby terminating all prospects of a career as a pianist.

At 11, "Wecki", as she was known, took lessons on the cello from the celebrated cellist and musicologist Joachim Stutchewsky, and made such phenomenal progress that by the time she was 14 she and her pianist sister Gilia both went straight from school each day to play in their father's band at the silent cinema.

At 21 she married Joseph Feldman, whose business interests were in China. On arrival in Shanghai she discovered that Feldman's friends and relatives spoke only Russian or English. She spoke neither, but within two months taught herself hasic Russian by reading the classics and looking up every word in the dictionary.

She continued to play the cello and soon achieved a following on the concert platform. When offered a teaching job at the Manila Academy in the Philippines, she accepted despite the fact that she knew nothing about teaching and spoke no English the academy's official language). She wrote to Stutchewsky for advice and he sent her a long letter outlining the main principles of teaching: she also set about learning English.

Her husband joined her and for the next four years Regina taught form, undaunted by the dangers hut

ful performing career. But by 1935 ences. However, the marriage began the marriage was over and she returned to Europe and continued her studies with Stutchewsky. Within six months she had established a major solo career and become known throughout Europe, one of the highlights being a performance of the Dvorak Concerto in Prague under Rafael Kuhelik and the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra.

In 1938 she and Stutchewsky married in Switzerland. This coincided with the Nazi invasion of Austria and

'When, aged nearly 90, she fractured her arm, she simply started working on the piano until she could lift her bow and play her cello again'

Stutchewsky, an ardent Zionist, felt they should go to Palestine. For the next two years Regina continued her career in her adopted country. and kibbutzim alike. She became captivated by the idealism, energy and commitment of the people there, ac-

There were dangers too: in 1940 the Stutchewskys just missed being killed when the Italians bombed Tel Aviv. Regina was injured and her cello smashed to pieces. She borrowed a cello and continued to percello and huilt up a highly success- inspired by the passion of the audi-

to flounder and she and her husband agreed to divorce.

None the less her performing career continued to flourish in Palestine, and it was on a concert tour of the Middle East that she met Stanley Gillinson, on leave from the British Army in India, whom she married in Jaffa in 1945. Once again her nomadic existence survived postings from Cairo to Bangladesh and she continued her career. pausing only to give birth to their two children. Clive and Sandra.

After a brief return to England, the family set off for India, where they lived luxuriously for a time. After Gandhi's assassination in 1948 life for Europeans changed and she returned to England with her children. Her husband, who had staved in India to settle their affairs, shortly afterwards sent a cable asking if she would agree to go and live on a farm in Kenya. Never one to shirk a challenge, she set off for yet another new start in Africa.

Life there was very lonely but, resourceful as ever, Schein discovered a love for gardening that was to remain a consuming passion for the rest of her life. After three years on the farm she decided to return to England in order to send her children to school. It was then that her husband wrote asking for a separation. She was devastated hut again accepted the situation with fortitude.

She had to work hard to rehuild achieving success in cities, villages her career earning a living through teaching and freelancing. She played regularly with the Goldsborough, the English Chamber Orchestra and quiring a vivid sense of Jewish history the Philharmonia from 1956 until the and a pride in her own Jewish roots. early 1970s, and was involved in a great deal of chamber music which she loved. She also formed a highly successful trio with the pianist Natalia Karp and the violinist Henriette Cante, made appearances on BBC TV and toured in Europe, as well as touring Israel in 1968 and 1970.

She settled in Priory Gardens in



her spare time, she tended her garden with the energy of a woman half her age. Despite the failure of three marriages, she eventually found happiness in a loving relationship with the Viennese-horn architect Joseph Berger, notable exponeot in Britain of the Viennese Modernist School of Architecture. This was an ideal partnership which endured until Berger died in 1989. She continued to play right up until her death and on her 90th hirthday recorded the first movement of the Bach G Major Solo Cello Suite, which was

played at her funeral service. Her son, Clive Gillinson, manager

described her remarkable gift of friendship and her loving, gentle, passionate and enthusiastic nature. She always had time for everyone and I am proud that all our family have inherited that enthusiasm. even if we do drive people crazy with it at times. She never did anything by halves, whether it was her love for her family, her knitting of squares for blankets for Oxfam, which I think

around - and aiways her music." He went on to say that music remained the centre of Regina

certainly the most beautiful for miles

music, and even when she fractured her arm shortly before her 90th birthday, simply started working on the piano until she was able to lift her bow and play her cello again." MARGARET CAMPBELL

Reginn Rebecca Schein, cellist: born Zwich, Switzerland 30 April 1908; married 1920 Joseph Feldman (marriage dissolved 1935), could probably cover the whole of Africa, her garden - which is almost 1938 Joachim Stutcherosky (marriage dissolved 19401, 1945 Stanley Gillinson (deceased; one son, and one daughter deceased); died London 7 April 1999.

George Clive

GEORGE CLIVE was that rare being a countryman and an intellectual. His father, who came from a long

line of soldiers (which included Clive of India), was killed in action in 1943, when his son was only two years old. From his mother's side, he inherited the remarkable Pakenham intellect. He belonged to an extended family of distinguished writers and historians.

This coupling of inherited traits acute intelligence combined with a stoic sense of duty - was to remain with him all his life. While still at Eton he began to take control of the once derelict family estate in Herefordstire. With the help of Ian Howie, who was his farm manager for over 30 years. Whitfield became a model estate. Their management, guided by both conservation and innovation, was remarkably successful. It is rare to find 1,200 acres of dedicated woodland containing a champion oak tree, and an unrivalled stand of Californian Redwoods. Rarer still is a farm where the diversification is so imaginative that the crops include fields of parsley, squirrel-poisoning hoppers with dormouse defeating doors and hundreds of Himalayan

Blue poppies.
Although Clive's first love was forestry, he was equally able to focus on wild flowers. In a short paper written about conservation practice at Whitfield, he describes an embargo on late summer mowing which ensured the survival of a colony of Ladies' Tresses orchids on the lawn. In the same paper is a meticulous record of the increase in flowering spikes of the Marsh Helieborine, from six in 1983, to 210 in 1992.

All the work at Whitfield was done for the benefit of the estate and of the people whose lives were involved in it. Providing jobs was a stopped playing or listening to a focal point for many people's lives. Local events, from literary gatherings at the Hay Festival, to country fairs, church fetes, timber growers, international dendrologists and charities of all kinds, homed in on Whitfield

D

The lakes and follies that Clive designed and built at Whitfield with his own hands, and the trees that he planted, made a garden worthy of the picturesque landscape that surrounded it. As a gardener, his knowledge was formidable. He judged trees and shrubs for the Royal Horticultural Society (he could spot a Magnolia hypoleuca from 200 paces), and at home he always had an eye for the best plant.

His good-mannered modesty meant that he spoke rarely at meetlistening. As a member of the National Trust's Estates and Gardens Panels, his advice was invaluable. He enormously enjoyed his play for the Donald O'Connor- Jackie Cooper as a young medical role as Chairman of the Herefordshire branch of the National Council for the Conservation of Plants Dalton as his nurse-sweetheart and Gardens, attending meetings and James Komack as a Bilko-type about bamboos or ferns with the same gusto as he brought to

> A fast mover, he was hard to keep a pace with, and his conversation was hardly pedestrian. The perpetual quest for knowledge was conducted at a cracking pace. Blessed with an encyclopaedic mind, he never confined it to country life, but read vo-raciously, novels, biographies, poetry. newspapers and any printed matter, absorbing information like a magnet attracts iron filings. He spent the two days before he died learning the Latin names of all the diseases on the ward at St Thomas'.

Clive never married, but for the last 15 years he shared his life with the painter Penny Graham, who some of the changes that were supported him in all his interests



Clive: an eye for the best plant

regularly and generously enter-tained at Whitfield.

A host of people who regarded George Clive as a tower of strength was shocked by the suddenness of his death, from lung cancer. He seemed to have more energy than a teenager, and his immunity to physical discomfort was legendary. The man who could linger in the sub-zero temperatures of the Kew Seed Bank at Wakehurst was never one to complain of feeling ill.

MARY KEEN

1947 Nancy Braggins (one son, one daughter); died Edinburgh 12 April 1999.

George Meysey Clive, gardener and landowner: born 29 December 1942; died London 17 April 1999.

Don McGuire

DURING THE last half of the Forties. Don McGuire enjoyed a steady career in films as an actor, typifying the regular all-American "Joe" in likeable fashion without ever making the sort of impression that would lead to major stardom. In 1951 he wisely switched to writing, for which his hackground in journalism had prepared him, and directing.

Though much of his work was undistinguished, he had a hand in the writing of two outstanding movies. John Sturges's fine thriller Bad Day at Black Rock and Sydney Pollack's comedy Tootsie. for which McGuire received an Oscar nomination, along with his cowriters Larry Gelbart and Murray Schisgal. He also worked extensively in television, creating the hit Born in Chicago in 1919, McGuire

worked on local Hearst newspaspending four years in the US Army went to Hollywood as a press agent. His boyish charm led to the offer of a film contract with Warners and he made his screen debut as a wounded soldier in Pride of the Marines (1945). Roles followed in two of Joan Crawford's best films, Humoresque (1946, as a barman) and Possessed (1947), as a hospital intern tending

to the traumatised Crawford. In Nora Prentiss (1947), he was a young van driver who starts the film's events in motion when he runs down and slightly injures Ann Sheridan, and in The Man I Love (1947), starting Ida Lupino, he had one of his best roles as a young husband who spoils his flighty wife (Dolores Moran).

he found himself mainly in B movies, though one of them, Richard Fleischer's Armoured Car Robbery (1950) was a superior thriller in which McGuire made a strong impression as Danny Ryan, a rookie detective assigned to work with a seasoned veteran (Charles Mc-Graw) who has just lost his partner. At the film's climax, Ryan nearly loses his life during a tense

One of McGuire's last films as an actor was Double Dynamite (1951), pers as a journalist, then after in which he played the womanising son of a bank manager - an important film for him in that he formed a friendship with its star, Frank Sinatra. Later McGuire was to write the Sinatra film Meet Danny Wilson (1952) and both write and direct the western Johnny Concho (1956) starring Sinatra.

McGuire's first screenwriting credits came when he wrote the orig-



Jessica Lange and Dustin Hoffman in Tootsie, 1982; McGuire won an Oscar nomination for the screenplay

inal stories for two B thrillers, Dou- of the bar's television set to further ble Deal (1950), a murder mystery set in the world of oil-wells, and Dial 1119 (1950), a minor but engrossing movie set in a bar where a psychopath (Marshall Thompson) holds captive a disparate group of cus-tomers. The film made notable use

the narrative, one of the first times that the then fresh medium had been used as an important plot device. McGuire's script for Meet Danny Wilson was a skilful hiend of comedy and drama neatly tailored for Sinatra, but his story and screen-

Janet Leigh musical Walking My Bnoy Bnck Home (1953) was tediously lacklustre.

He fared hetter with his adaptation of a Howard Breslin story, Bad Dny nt Black Rock (1955), though Millard Kaufman wrote the final screenplay for this powerful drama in which a one-armed stranger (Spencer Tracy) arrives in a remote western town just after the end of the Second World War and uncovers a dark secret. McGuire co-scripted two Martin and Lewis vehicles, Three Ring Circus (1955) and one of their hest films Artists and Models (1956). McGuire was one of four writers (including the director Frank Tashlin) on the latter, but Jerry Lewis thought highly of his work, and, when the comic turned producer the following year to make his first solo starring vehicle, he engaged McGuire both to write and direct.

A satire on films about juvenile delinquency The Delicate Delinquent was, like McGuire's Sinatra western Johnny Concho, only a moderate success and McGuire moved into television where, in 1959, he created, as writer, producer and director, the series Hennessey, which ran for three seasons. Set at a naval base in San Diego, it starred

officer who treated the base personnel and their families, with Abby naval dentist. McGuire spent most of the next | everything he did.

20 years working in television, and during that time wrote three povels largely based on his experiences, The Dny Television Died, 1600 Floogle Street and The Hell With Walter Cronkite. When McGuire returned to the hig screen, it was with a gigantic success, Tootsie (1982), for which he and Larry Gelbart wrote the original story. One of the highest-grossing films in the history of Columbia Pictures, this trenchant comedy of sexual identity and the vagaries of show business was an enormous hit and won an Oscar nomination for its screenplay. McGuire expressed displeasure at made to the original conception - the | and enthusiasms. Together they enfinal screenplay was by Gelbart and joyed theatres, art galleries, travel, gardens and the friends who were additional work by Elaine May.

TOM VALLANCE Don McGuire, actor, screenwriter

and producer: born Chicago 28 February 1919; died Los Angeles 13



WITH THE death of Gordon Stott, Scotland has lost a distinguished judicial figure and a remarkable legal personality some months short of his 90th hirthday.

Scottish Bar, where he acted predominantly for industrial workers in accident cases, Scott was Lord Advocate in the first Wilson adminisindependence of government as a for his independence of mind and outspokenness were characterisresponsible for promoting certain overdue law reforms which had been advocated but not implemented and for the setting up of the Scottish Law Commission alongside its counterpart for England and Wales.

He became a Senator of the College of Justice (High Court judge in Scotland) in 1967, retiring in 1984 on reaching the statutory age limit of 75, latterly having served in the After a notable career at the First Division appeal court (formerly chaired by the late Lord

Clyde, the Lord President Clyde). Stott had an acute legal mind partly hidden behind a somewhat bluff, notration from 1964 to 1967. It was an nonsense and gently mocking manner office in which he relished his total His pleading was a model of forceful economy and he was a formidable oppublic prosecutor and legal adviser, ponent as Lord Clyde found the hard way - by having his adverse judgments routinely reversed when Stott aptic. As Lord Advocate then he was pealed them to the House of Lords (which could have benefited from

having him as a Lord of Appeal). Gordon Stott was born in 1909, a son of the manse. He had a conventional education at Edinburgh Academy and Edinburgh Universi-

ty where he was a distinguished law scholar. He espoused socialist politics in the 1930s which did not endear him to the legal establishment when he was admitted to the Faculty of Advocates in 1936. He was a founder member of the Muir Society of Labour lawyers just before the outbreak of the Second World War and for a time he was secretary of the Edinburgh Trades Council.

Lord Stott

As a man of strong principles he was a pacifist and conscientious objector during the war, doing agricultural work in place of military service. He gave his services free as counsel for other objectors before the tribunal for conscientious objectors. During the war years he edited a Labour journal, the Edinburgh Clorion. Though a Labour parliamentary candidate on several occasions he was not elected to Parliament.

After the war he was an Advocate-Depute (prosecuting counsel) and took silk in 1950. Before being appointed Lord Advocate in 1964 he was a member of the Monopolies Commission, 1949-56, and Sheriff Principal of Roxburgh, Berwick and Selkirk, 1961-64.

In his personal life Stott was friendly and compassionate, with a preference for plain speaking and zero tolerance for hypocrisy or pretension. A tall figure with a somewhat windswept look, he was to be seen striding over the local hills or walking his dog (which was said on occasion to accompany him to court - and in court - when he was a judge). As a keen walker his latter years were unhappily restricted by failing legs.

His mind remained as sharp as ever After retiring Stott published three biographical volumes reflect-

ing diaries which he had kept for much of his life: Lord Advocate's Diary (1991). Judge's Diary (1995) and QC's Diary (1998). These contained entertaining anecdotes and insights on contemporary legal life and politics. But it was generally felt that they revealed more about Stoff the man than about the personalities targeted.

RONALD KING MURRAY George Gordon Stott, judge: born Edinburgh 22 December 1909; Editor. Edinburgh Clarion 1939-44; Advocate-Depute 1947-51; QC 1950; Sheriff of Roxburgh, Berwick and Selkirk 1961-64; PC 1964; Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland (as Lord Stott) 1967-84; married

احكرا س الاصل



Kevan Hunt

AS HEAD of Industrial Relations at the National Coal Board, Kevan Hunt held one of the most difficult management jobs in post-war Britain.

He assumed responsibility for industrial relations at a critical period of the year-long miners' strike of 1984-85, and then undertook the job of making thousands of miners redundant in preparation for privatisation. Had he een a convinced Thatcherite, both tasks would have been undertaken with relish. However Hunt was no hard-line monetarist and he never forgot bis humble origins in the industry; he had begun his career as a colliery electrician in Derbyshire.

Hunt felt like "piggy in the middle" between the Thatcher government, which harboured an ideological passion to defeat the left-led National Union of Mineworkers, and the revolutionary socialism of Arthur Scargill, its leader. During that bitter struggle, in which many mineworkers lost their homes and others saw their families split apart under the pressure, Hunt would privately express his intense frustration with the obduracy of both the government and the leadership of the NUM. He succeeded Ned Smith as head of industrial relations in 1985, just over halfway through the dispute.

The strike took its toll on Hunt There were prolonged periods of intense activity, often under the glare of the world's media. There was the consciousness that he was a key player in one of the most important periods in post-war British history and there was the realisation that the future of many thousands of miners and their families was partly in his hands. At one stage he believed the great conflict - which saw some of the most oppressive policing in

to resolution. The opportunity ebbed away however and Hunt admitted ween ing in frustration. He was, he said, 'hloody distraught" at the time,

Hunt did not allow his concern for the industry and its employees to interfere with his strongly pragmatic approach. He was a clever, hard-nosed negotiator and often appeared abrasive to those he faced across the table. To ordinary mineworkers Hunt would have appeared as something of an ogre, although they cast most senior managers in such a role. All coal board employees knew was that he was the man who helped to preside over an industrial relations cataclysm and what they saw as the virtual destruction of the industry. In the early 1980s coalmining employed

200,000; today the figure is ocarer 10,000. His single-minded approach to dealing with union negotiators was tempered by his sense of humour He had the capacity to go toe-to-toe with the trade unionist and then immediately afterwards inquire quite genuinely about their well-being. After the strike Hunt was never to face Arthur Scargill over a bargaining table because the NUM leader refused to negotiate alongside the Union of Democratic Mineworkers, a breakaway organisation which helped

to defeat the strike. If Hunt was responsible for helping to contract the industry - although he fought tooth and nail to keep some collieries open - be was anxious to help ameliorate the impact of the policy on miners and those who relied on collieries. As head of industrial relations from 1985 to 1988, and then as a director of the board until 1991, he attempted to ensure proper financial compensation for redundant pitmen and retraining for those who wanted it.



Hunt: 'piggy in the middle'

British Coal Enterprise and helped to involve the private and public sector in the creation of 130,000 jobs in areas affected by colliery closures.

He was active in attempting to regenerate industry in other parts of the country through his presidency of the Prince's Youth Business Trust in Nottinghamshire and through membership of government regeneration agencies. After his retirement the World Bank sought his help in restructuring coal industries in Eastern Europe and Russia. People associated with him in these endeavours tell how senior business people and major players in the public services would always attempt to be at meetings when Hunt was in attendance. They realised that he had been at the "sharp end" of an industry during one of its most turbulent periods.

It was the miners' strike which testpeacetime modern Britain - was near From 1993 to 1996 be was chairman of ed the mettle of the man. Only the far sons); died Derby 17 March 1999.

left in the NUM painted him as little better than their sworn enemies in the Thatcher government. Hunt was particularly hurt to receive a letter from Arthur Scargill on his retirement which accused him of relishing the destruction of the industry. Scargill expressed de-light at his departure.

مكذا من الاحل

Kevan Hunt might have pursued a career in politics. He was a member of the Amber Valley District Council for 12 years and was its leader for three years until 1976 when he moved to the coal board's industrial relations department in London. In later years he was able to go back to his roots, spending more time with former Derbyshire miners with whom be felt quite at home.

His inability to come to terms with Conservative governments, both during and after the strike, cost him a place in the honours list. Last year, however, be became a member of the Royal Victorian Order for his attempts to regenerate the old coalmining communities and for his youth work. Most trade unionists and management colleagues saw not only as a hard-beaded manager, but as a warm and generous person.

It was during a medical examination towards the end of his career at the coal board that the leukaemia was diagnosed which led to his death.

BARRIE CLEMENT

Kevan Hunt, industriol relations manager: born Seaham Horbour, Co Durham 13 October 1937; HQ Industrial Relations Director, National Coal Board (renamed British Coal 1987) 1982-84, IR Deputy Director-General 1984-85, Head of IR 1985-88, Executive Director 1988-91; chairman, British Coal Enterprise 1993-96; MVO 1998; married 1958 Valerie Scattergood (two

Parliament met and voted for

the restoration of Charles II.

1660; the guillotine was first erected in Paris, 1792; construc-

tion of the Suez Canal began,

1859; the US declared war oo Spain, 1898; British, French,

Australian and New Zealand

forces landed at the Gallipoli peninsula, Turkey, 1915; Pucci-ni's opera *Turandot* was first

radio serial The Dales eoded

episodes, 1969; in Portugal, a military junta deposed the gov-ernment, president and prime

after 21 years and over 5,400

performed, Milan 1926; the BBC

MEDICAL NOTES

ROBERT & MICHELE ROOT-BERNSTEIN

'A bleeding in spring is physik for a King'

READ MOST medical histories and you read that the practice of hleeding patients, a mainstay of traditional medicine for centuries, was one of the most barbaric treatments ever conceived.

Whether the doctor pierced a vein, cut the skin or applied a blood-sucking leech, his hehaviour was patently absurd. So, too, was the patient's ingestion of urine, usually dismissed by historians as a form of Drekapotheke-the misguided, wrongful use of disgusting substances as medicines. In both cases, however, this conventional history has it wrong. Far from irrational, these treatments met real medical needs in the past - and still do so in many

advanced clinics today. Phlebotomy was once so common that medical practitioners were known as "leeches" and the lancet became synonymous with the profession. Unfortunately, physicians in the past overused their tools, sometimes causing death by repetitive or massive bleedings and employing the remedy indiscriminately for any and all ailments. It is difficult for us to see any real benefits to the practice when such abuses are so glaringly obvious. Yet benefits there were, most

notably the lowering of fever. The Canadian physiologist Norman Kasting has shown that removing a pint of blood releases hormones that normalise body temperature. Significant bleeding also activates the immune system and depletes the body

of iron, required by many modern research and pracbacteria for optimal growth. Since fever reduction was one of the most common of historical uses for hleeding. it is quite likely that many people actually did benefit from the procedure.

Many certainly do today.

Regular phiebotomy is the preferred medical treatment for inherited and acquired blood diseases such as haemochromotosis, polycythema vera and porphyria cutanea tarda in which there is overproduction of red blood cells or a pathological retention of iron. Surprisingly, health ben-efits from bleeding may accrue to blood donors, too. Medieval Britons had a saying. "A hleeding in the spring is physik for a King," Regular blood donors do, indeed, have a longer life expectancy than the general population. Don't discount leeches. either. Microsurgeons use them to suck blood when all else fails to restore circulation to reattached digits, limbs, scalps, or transplants. Leech saliva is the original source for hirudin, a widely

drugs are in the works. Like bleeding, the ingestion of human and animal urines was once a common medical remedy used to treat everything from menstrual irregularities and menopause symptoms to giddiness and sleeplessness - by the looks of it another useless panacea. Yet, once again, the ancient

uses have been validated by

used "blood thinner" for beart

attack and stroke patients,

and more leecb-derived

tice. Urine can contain high levels of hormones such as melatonin, used currently to facilitate relaxation and sleep, and oestrogen, the primary component of menoneusal drugs like Premarin™. whose name is a contraction of the "pregnant mare's urine"

from which it is distilled. Urine contains other medicinal substances as well. People from time immemorial have washed wounds and burns in fresh urine, As long as the urine came from a healthy individual it was sterile and contained hesides large amounts of urea, an antiseptic we still use in wound preparations today. Urine also dissolved scahs, an ageold observation that recentty led scientists to discover the enzyme urokinase, now a clot-busting drug for heart attack and stroke patients. Even the folk tradition of rubhing urine on the body to improve the complexion or rebeve chapped skin has its counterpart in modern practice. Urea is a common ingredient of skin moisturisers and lotions.

Such histories have their moral. Even the most absurd or disturbing of past medical practices may barbour a grain of medical wisdom. Understanding the practices of the past is the key to creating the treatments of the future.

Robert and Michele Root-Bernstein are the authors of Honey, Mud, Maggots and Other Medical Marvels',

(Macmillan, £12.99)

GAZETTE

BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

BIRTHS

HOPKINS: On 7 April, to Clare and Tony, a daughter Grace, a sister for David and John.

DEATHS

HOWARD: Dame Rosemary Christian, DBE, peacefully on 22 April, aged 82, in York District Hospital. Private Requiem at 10am to be followed at 12 noon by the Funeral Service for family and only close friends, on Thurs-day 29 April in the Chapel at Castle Boward. Family and estate Bowers only. Donations in estate 8owers only. Donations in lieu to either the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, or Church Missiooary Society at Parnership Bouse, 157 Waterloo Road, London. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at a later date in York Minster.

Royal

ENGAGEMENTS The Duke of York today attends the

The Duke of York today attends the Finals of the National Under 12s Rugby Pestival at Twickenham. The Princess Royal, Colonel in Chief, the Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment (29th/45th Foot), today attends a regimental dinner at Foresters House, Chetwynd Barracks, Beaston, Nottingham. The Prince of Wales tomorrow attends a Sikh celebration of the 300th anniversary of the founding of the Khalsa at the Royal Albert Hall, London SW7.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

TODAY. The Household Cavairy Mount-ed Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards. Ham; 1st Bai-talion Coldstream Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, al Buckingham Palace 11.30am, band provided by the Weish Guards. TOMORROW: The Household Cavairy Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards. 10am: 1st Battailon Coldstream Guards rounts the Queen's Guard, at Backing-ham Palace, 11.30am, band provided by the Grenndier Guards.

BIRTHDAYS

General, Conservative Party, 50: The Earl of Lichfield, photographer, 60: Sir Michael TODAY: Mr Ralph Brown. Llewellyn Smith, ambassador sculptor, 71; Field Marshal to Greece, 60; Mr 1an McCart-ney MP, Minister of State for Lord Carver, former Chief of the Defence Staff, 84; Mr John Eroest Collins, former chair-Competitiveness, 48; Mr David Machin, Under Treasurer, man, Guardian Royal Exchange Gray's Inn, 65; Lady Marre, for-mer chairman, BBC and IBA Assurance Group, 76; Lord Coulsfield, Senator of the Col-Ceotral Appeals Advisory ege of Justice in Scotland, 65; Committee, 79: Surgeon Vice-Admiral Sir Godfrey Milton-Sir Peter Cresswell, High Court judge. 55; Mr Brian Don-nelly, amoassador to Thompson, 69; Mr Buster Mottram, tennis player. 44; Miss Marian Norrie, circult Yugoslavia, 54; Sir Clement Frend. writer and former MP, judge, 59: Mr John Owen, for-75; Dame Helen Gardiner, former Governor of the Cayman Islands, 60; Mr Al Pacino, actor, 59; Miss Helen Paling, circuit mer Chief Clerk, Private Secretary's Office, Buckingham Palace, 98: M Jean-Paul judge, 66; Mr William Roache, actor, 67; Mr Adrian Sanders Gaultier, fashion designer, 47: Mr Fred Heddell, chief execu-MP, 40; Mr David Shepherd, tive, Meocap, 54; Rear-Admiral artist, 68; Lord Skidelsky, Pro-fessor of Political Economy, Sir Joseph Heuley, 90; Mr Neil Hook, ambassador to Turk-Warwick University, 60; Mr nistan, 54: Mr Richard Jar-Paul Stincheombe MP 37 man, arts consultant and Dame Veronica Sntherland, former general director, Scottish Opera, 50; Mr Robert Republic of Ireland, 60: Mr McCartney MP. 63: Mr Binrn Ulvaeus, singer, 54. Andrew MacKinlay MP, 50; Miss Shirley Maclaine, actress, 65; Ms Margaret Mnran MP, 44; Mr James Paice MP, 50; Sir Hngh Park, former High Court judge, 89; Mr Stuart Pearce, footballer, 37; Miss Bridget Riley, painter, 68; Miss Barbra Streisand.

61; Mr John Williams, gui-tarist, 58; Miss Paula Yates,

Boucher, Principal and Vice-

Bristow, darts champlon, 42;

Mr Anthony Christopher, for-

mer trade union leader. 74; Mr

Johann Cruyff, football manag

er, 52; Mr David de Peyer, for-

mer director-general, Cancer Research Campaign, 65; Dr Thomas Faber, chairman,

Graham-Smith, former Astronomer Royal, 76; Lord

Hayter, former chairman,

Chubb & Son, 88; Mr Alan

Judge, former Director

Hoole, consultant on UK Over-seas Territories, 57; Sir Paul

Geoffrey Faber, 72; Sir Francis

TODAY Births: William the Silent, Prince of Orange, 1533; Edmund Cartwright, inventor of the actress and singer, 57; Lt-Col Stuart Townend, fnunder, Hill House School, 90; Mr Frank power loom, 1743; Anthony Trollope, writer and inventor of the illar box. 1815; Henri-Philippe Pétain, soldier and French leader, 1856; Arthur Christopher Benson, scholar and writer. 1862: Sir Richard Stafford Cripps, lawyer, diplomat and statesman, 1889; William Joyce ("Lord Haw-Haw"), collaborator TOMORROW: Professor Boh Chancellor, Umist, 59; Mr Eric with the Nazis, 1906.

ANNIVERSARIES

Deaths: Daniel Defoe, writer, 1731; Willa Cather, novelist, 1947: Bill (William John) Edrich, cricketer, 1986; The Duchess of Windsor (Wallis Warfield), 1986.

On this day: Mary, Queen of Scots, aged 16, married the Dauphin of France, 1538; the words and music of the "Morseillaise" were composed by Rouget de Lisle, 1792; the Library of Coogress was estab-lished, 1800; the Garrick Theatre, London, opened, 1889; Joshua Slocum set sail from Boston, Massacbusetts, US, on the first solo mund-the-world voyage, 1895; Spain declared war on the United States, 1898; the first issue of the Daily Express appeared, 1900; the Republican insurrectioo in Ireland known as the Easter Rising occurred. Easter Mooday 1916; in the German geoeral election, Nazis won many seats in large cities, 1932; the first performance of the musical Mnn of La Mancha was presented, Londoo 1968; the Gambia was proclaimed a republic, 1970.

Today is the Feast Day of St Egbert, St Fidelis of Sigmarin-gen, St Ives or Ivo, St Mary Euphrasia Pelletler, St Mellitus of Canterbury and St William

TOMORROW Births: (St) Louis IX, King France, 1214; King Edward II. 1284; Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector of England, 1599; Sir

Marc Isambard Brunel, eogioeer and inventor, 1769; John Keble. Anglican priest and founder member of the Oxford Movement, 1792; Charles Burgess Fry, cricketer and writer, 1872; Walter de la Mare, poet and novelist, 1873; Guglielmo Marconi. radio pioneer. 1874: Edward (Egbert) Roscoe Murrow, broadcaster and jour-nalist, 1908; Elia Fitzgerald, singer, 1917.

Deaths: Leon Battista degli Alberti, architect, sculptor, writer and musician, 1472; Mar-garet of Anjnu, Queen, wife of Henry VI. 1482; Torquato Tasso, poet, 1595; David Teniers the Younger, painter, 1690; Anders Celsius, inventor of the centigrade thermometer, 1744; William Cowper, poet, 1800; Ger-tie Millar (Countess of Dudley). musical comedy actress, 1952; Joseph Hergesheimer, novelist, 1954; Sir Carol Reed, film director, 1976: Dame Celia Johnson. actress, 1982; Ginger Rogers (Virginia Katherine McMath),

On this day: the Dutch defeated the Spanish in the Bay of Gibraltar, 1607; a Convention

actress and dancer, 1995.

minister, 1974; the West German embassy in Stockholm was blown up by terrorists and two people shot, 1975; Portugal held its first free elections for 50

Mark the Evangelist.

LECTURES

TODAY National Gallery: James Heard, "Feasts (iv): Kalf, Still Life with the Drinking-Horn of Saint Sebastian Archers Guild", 12pm. Victoria and Albert Museum: Charlotte Horlyck, "Korean Funeral Art", 2pm, National Portrait Gallery: Angela Cox. "Cromwell Quater centenary: the Victorians, Oliver Cromwell and the Civil

TOMORROW Tate Gallery: Laurence Bradbury, "Every Maid Her Own Master", 2.30pm. National Portrait Gallery: John Cooper, "Remark These Ruffnesses: Oliver Cromwell in portraiture, 1646-58", 3pm.

DINNERS

Royal Society of St George The City of London branch of the Royal Society of St George held its annual St George's Day Banquet yesterday at Guildhall, Loodon EC2. Mr Michaet Chism presided.

Tomorrow is Anzac Day and the Feast Day of St Anianus of Alexandria, St Heribald and St I don't want to be brave just ordinary, thanks

WHY DO the able-bodied so often describe the disabled as hrave? I pondered that question this week as Trevor Mc-Donald presented the "and finally" on the early-evening ITN news.

The person wbom Trevor introduced as brave was Zoe Koplowitz, a 50-year-old New Yorker who had completed the London Marathon. Zoe had multiple sclerosis and finished the 26-mile course aided by two purple crutches and a clutch of escorts from the Yeomanry Artillery Regiment. She crossed the ribbon 30 hours and 10 minutes after she started the race, making her average speed approximately 0.87 miles per hour.

It was a great story. It showed Zoe was witty, persis-tent, determined and skilled in the fine art of pacing berself. But was she brave? I'm not so sure. The word "brave" tends to be a knee-jerk epithet for people with incurable diseases. It gets attached to those living with cancer or multiple sclerosis as surely as "braless" gets stuck to Charlie Dimmock, Gardinal Basil Hume announces be has cancer, and out comes the headline; "The courage of Cardinal Hume." It's as though we are brave by virtue of being ill. But can you be "brave" when you have no choice?

It's hrave when a teacher is confronted by an armed killer and gets shot because he has been standing so he can tell his students to take cover. That's brave, because he could have behaved otherwise. But, if you have cancer or multiple scierosis, then there is no alternative to getting on with life. Most of us would rather be ablebodied cowards. The only reason we aren't is because we can't he. Calling us "hrave" re-

It could be argued, however, that we call Zoe and Basil "hrave" not simply because they have MS and cancer respectively, but because they aren't giving in to their diseases. Ms Koplowitz is completing marathons and Cardinal Hume is getting on with business as usual. They aren't letting their

That brings me to the second around listening to him. Martha problem I have with "brave". All too often the reason why the disabled are admired is because they are behaving as similarly to the able-bodied as possible. Would Trevor Mc-Donald bave been as impressed with Ms Koplowitz if sbe had said, "It was my lifelong ambition to run a marathon, but when I got MS my priorities changed. I'd rather grow roses now"? Would the headline writers have been as admiring of Cardinal Hume if he had said: "It had been my intention to fulfil the Pope's wishes by leading the Church into the next

FAITH REASON

JO IND

The attitude of the able-bodied to people with terminal illness reveals our society's deep-rooted tendency to value people for what they do, rather than who they are

Millennium hut now my circumstances are different. I want to retire so I can grieve, pray and be with my brothers at Ampleforth?" Of course if Ms Koplowitz ex-

periences marathons as a way of taking control of her life again, then she should do them. And if Cardinal Hume feels called to carry on working for as long as possible, then we should respect that choice and support him in it. But we must guard against the tendency to admire people struck by disease for seeming to behave just as though they're healthy.

In the Gospel of Luke there is a story about two sisters called Martha and Mary. When food while Mary was sitting multiple sclerosis

got fed up with this and asked Jesus to tell Mary to help her. "Martha, Martha," Jesus. "You worry and fret about

so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who bas chosen the better part." This is another great story and one which works at a corporate as well as an individual level. As a society we consistently choose Martha's way over Mary's. We value "doing", "achieving" and "being productive" over sitting down and taking it all in. We like people to keep busy and keep smiling.

When we value rushing around over staying still and getting thing done over paying attention we are effectively valuing the able-bodied over the disabled. One challenge of the Gospel story is to hear how it is possible for the "ill" to remind the "healthy" that there is a better way. Whenever we are overly impressed by the activities of the sick, we are colluding with the lie that being up-and-about and husy is what

I'm not saying that this is what Ms Koplowitz and Cardinal Hume are doing. I am saying we must ask ourselves why we think it "hraver" to respond to illness by working and doing a marathon than by spending time with friends and thanking God for food, love and a showery April day.

matters most.

My third reason for questioning the baste with which people living with incurable diseases are described as "brave", is that it sets us apart. If I'm called "brave" it feels as though I'm looking over my shoulder and seeing everyone else running in the opposite direction. I experience "brave" as being told: "You're on your

When we describe people as "brave" we are seeing them as different from us. When we describe them as an "inspiration" we recognise that we are on the same journey; the only difference being that they are one step ahead.

Jesus went to their bouse Jo Ind is the author of Fat is Martha was busy doing the a Spiritual Issue'. She has

CHESS JON SPEELMAN

AS I explained yesterday, despite losing his last-round agame by default, the Kent international master Danny Gormally's 5/9 at the recent Hampstead International was enough to propel him into the lead in the Onyx Grand Prix.

But after a reign tiny even by Lady Jane Grey's standards of just three days, he was over-taken by Keith Arkell wbo put behind him the disappointment of his 3.5-2.5 defeat in Hampstead in the ehallenge match with Mark Hebden, with a sav-

age 5/5 at Rhyl last weekend. This left Arkell on 175.5/200 well clear of Gormally 164.9, Lalic 160, Simon Williams 157, Andrew Ledger 139.4, Crouch 138.2 Plaskett 136.7 and Hebden – last year's winner –

currently on just 125.5. There were 130 competitors in all at Rhyl including. I'm informed, a honeymoon couple who had got married the day before in Gretna Green. The three sections consisted of an Open, Major and what the organiser, a local GP, Dr Hugh Jones, prefers to call not as is usual the Minor, but by the less

psychologically undermining "Goodnight tournament".

Arkell is already entitled to play in the British Championship; it was the runner-up R.A. Barton from Morecambe on 4 who qualified for this year's tournament, as ever m the first fortnight in August, and this time in Scarborough.

Arkell's best game was probably this one in the first round against the joint British under-18 champion, eldest of a family of four talented juniors from Bath.

When Buckley played 2 Qe2 rather than the usual 2 d4, Arkell decided on the unusual "Hippopotamus", named after the supposed resemblance between the structure, with the two fianchettoed hishops. centre pawns on e6 and d6 and the two knights behind

them, and a hippo in a river. This highly provocative opening is difficult to meet since White must strike a balance between the desire to punish his opponent's effrontery and overpressing. Buckley played perfectly reasonably hut I don't like 11 axb5?! - eg 17 Nxf5 exf5

11 Nbd2 looks hetter, since after Black recaptured with the queen on a8 there was already strong pressure on e4.

If 15 Qxb5 Ba6 nets the exchange while 20 e6 Re8 21 exf7+ Kxf7 is also better for Black. Arkell got powerful queenside pressure and after 26 ... Be4! the advantage was considerable. At the end if 35 exd5 Rxa4 36 Rxd3 Ra1+ wins

White: David Buckley Black: Keith Arkell "Hippopotamus"

1 e4 e6 18 Ng5 h6 19 Nf3 Qa4 2 Qe2 d6 3 d4 Nd7 20 Bd2 Qb3 4 g3 Ne7 21 Rb1 Ra8 5 Bg2 g6 22 exd6 exd6 23 Qd1 Qxd1+ 7 Nf3 0-0 24 Rxd1 Ra2 25 Bc1 Nb6 26 Nel Be4! 9 c3 b5 27 Bft Ne4 11 axb5 axb5 28 b3 Na3 12 Rxa8 Qxa8 29 Bxa3 Rxa3 13 Nh4 Nf6 30 Bxb5 Rxb3 14 e5 Nfd5 31 c4 d5 15 Nd2 Rd8 32 Ng2 Bd3 16 Ne4 Nf5 33 Ba4 Bxd4+ 34 Kh1 Ra3 0-1 | blocked by winning with his

WEST'S DEFENCE here was a

curious mixture - though his

opening lead was on target. After two passes East opened One Diamond and South overcalled with One Heart. West passed, North raised to Two Hearts, and South jumped directly to game. Well, you or I would have led a diamond against Four Hearts ("Partner's suit! What else?") but oow the play is easy for declarer. Whatever East returns at trick 2, it is straightforward to ruff two clubs in durnmy; with a diamond ruff available for a quick re-entry to hand. No. from somewhere or another.

West found a trump lead. Now declarer had problems. It was easy enough to win, cash the top clubs and take one ruff on the table, but now, when declarer led a low diamond from the table, East won with his jack and returned a second trump. South won in hand and drew the last trump, discarding a diamond from dummy, and led a low spade. West played low: declarer out in the seven. East got it right when he unreturned the nine. When declarer played low, so did West; the nine was allowed to hold. Now it was all over - the spades broke 3-3; South's losing club went away on the long spade. What could West have done? The play in the spade suit was

critical. First, when South started the suit by leading low from hand, West could have played his jack. If left on lead, he can cash his jack of clubs; if dummy wins with the ace, there is no entry for declarer to reach the long spade. Well, that was difficult. hut later on, when East returned the nine of spades, West could again have played

BRIDGE

queen, instead of the nine, and

duces the meaning of the word. his jack with the same effect. I illnesses get in their way.

Twenty years ago the Comedy Store opened in London, bringing American-style alternative stand-up to the UK for the first time. Today, what was once edgy, angry and subversive has become big business. By John Crace

lexei Sayle and Sandi Toksvig you will have heard of. But what about Nina Finburgh, Bill Beckett, Ed Shirman, Bob

Flag. Brian Beck and Jon Jon Keefe? These were just a few of the wannabe comedians who replied to adverts in Punch. The Stage and the Evening Standard, got paid nothing and were present at the birth of alternative comedy as part of the first-night line-up of the Comedy Store on 19 May 1979.

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Before the Comedy Store opened its doors above a Sobo strip club. stand-up comedy in this country was middle-aged, middle-class and Little England in mentality. "The scene was dominated by the likes of Jimmy Tarbuck and Lenny Bennett," says Don Ward, the Comedy Store's founder. "I wanted to create a club that was based on the US stand-up circuit, which would have relevance to young people," So out went the mother-in-law and racist jokes and in came a new political agenda, fuelled by resentment of the Thatcher regime. In hindsight, its success seems

inevitable. The only real surprise is that no one had thought of it earlier. But at the time Larry Adler wrote off the Comedy Store as just "an undisciplined load of rubbish that would never catch on", and an early billing including Rik Mayall, Ade Edmondson, Nigel Planer and French and Saunders pulled in only

Don Ward admits that it was all a bit chaotic at the start. "French and Saunders died on their arse week after week, but they kept coming back for their £15," he says. But after a while some comedians got better, some got well-known, and some got both. Within five years rival clubs such as the Banana in Balham and Jongleurs in Battersea sprang up, and the ever quick-offthe-mark TV producers thought money could be made, "even if the stand-ups did use bad language".

And that was really that as far as



alternative comedy was concerned. Performers who had started out as the last word in cutting edge became mainstream fodder for the late-night TV schedules, working hard to hone their acts for the midevening TV slots. The clubs still thrived, of course, because there were plenty of people who had got to enjoy live comedy as an alternative to the mind-blowing tedium of most rock gigs, but for most comedians, the clubs had become less of an end in themselves and more a potential launchpad to TV and "loadsamoney".

On any Saturday night in London today there are around 250 different comedy venues to choose

almost double that. Some are still little more than a dingy, smoky room above a pub, but this is less out of financial necessity and more out of the owners' belief that the public want to feel they are living a little bit recklessly. Make no mistake about it, comedy is an industry and for those in charge, an extremely lucrative one.

To be fair, some clubs have tried to retain the atmosphere of the early days. Despite having moved to a much plusher 400-seater theatre just off Leicester Square, Don Ward's Comedy Store has done its best not to dilute the brand. Comedy is what's on offer, and comedy is what you get. If you're very lucky between, and in the UK as a whole, you may even get an impromptu

performance from the likes of Eddie Izzard or Bill Bailey, who just bappen to be passing by. Even so, Ward is weakening as the pound signs beckon and he's thinking of opening another couple of Comedy Stores up north.

But he's got a long way to go before he matches Jongleurs, which was bought a few years ago by Regent Inns. It has now become the Asda of the comedy circuit, with branches in Camden, Bow. Leicester. Watford. Nottingham, Oxford and Southampton, and has a fulltime team of 10 at its centralised booking call-centre. "We take between 6.500 and 7.500 bookings per week," says Nigel Pitman, a Jon-

Nothing can compete with Avalon though, the company which represents some of the biggest names in the business, such as Frank Skinner, David Baddiel and Harry Hill, and has recently expanded into production and pro-motion. Don Ward calls Avaion "a bunch of strange, pontificating twats". which may strike a chord with anyone who has seen their staff parading at the Edinburgh Festival in identikit black shirts and

with a vigour bordering on zealotry. Not that Avalon care much what Ward - or anyone else - thinks. "We put on the biggest live comedy gig diel played to 12,000 at the Wemb-

from Avaion, proudly. "This prompted Janet Street-Porter to call comedy the new rock n'roll." Avalon now runs The Comedy Network, which last year delivered over 500 nights of the Avalon experience into clubs and universities, and has been picked up by Channel 5.

It's hard to moan too much about the money Posh Spice earns a for-tune on little talent, so why shouldn't a comedian with plenty more earn a decent wage? Nigel Pitman reckons that a good club standup can make £30,000 per year and that once you make it on to TV, the sky's the limit. And yet one can't being thinking that somewhere along the line, money has made comedy a little too safe and anodyne. Nowhere is this better

illustrated than on the corporate circuit. Businesses that would once have booked Paul Daniels for their annual night out now go for "yoof" appeal by booking stand-ups from the circuit. And stand-ups, who would once have sneered at an invitation from a company whose politics they despised, happily turn up because they can earn between three and 10 times as much for a set. Last Christmas, the corporate arm of Jongleurs took over fim.

"Companies such as Saatchi & Saatchi and Morgan Grenfell have approached us to organise events," says John Davy, Jongleur's managing director. "We do everything from booking the acts to briefing the comedians on the foibles of selected members of the company." The comedians know the rules and are happy to abide by them.

The client gets what he pays for says Bob Mills, the TV standup, candidly. "I was once asked, six minutes before I went on to mention a particular product in my act as it would give the sales force a boost. So I did." Isn't this all hideously un-PC for a right-on comedian? "Yeah," he admits with a laugh. "I often think back on conversations I had with Alexei Sayle of all time when Newman and Bad- 10 years ago about how comedy was going to change the world and ley Arena," says James Harring I wonder where we went wrong,"

Tough going

DANCE THE PLACE THEATRE LONDON

MY GOODNESS, did Graeme Miller, "composer, director and installation. artist", give us a hard time. The title of his piece, Country Dance, and his announced collaboration with the choreographer Matthew Hawkins, seemed to promise at least some ... dance content. But in fact this was minimal - ghostly fragments of folk dance culminating in a couple of brief. sequences towards the end. Instead we got movement theatre with running, hysterics and speech. Fine, except that it is thin material. stretched thin and the 100 minutes tick away at a snall's pace.

imbined Hilton atotels around

Two nights

Exhausts from

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To Make

STATE BUTTER

The banality of shouted phrases such as "arterial road" and "limited waiting zone" may faithfully represent urban life, but it is ineffectual theatre. Game-like sections such as the line of people voicing customer complaints - "the coffin is one foot too short", "these condoms are lemon-flavoured" - suggest they were created through group improvisations, à la Pina Bausch. But this is fourth-rate Bausch, unimaginative and long-winded.

Clearly the cast are city-dwellers: stressed, mobile-phone-toting, deafened by the roar of overhead aircraft. A man with a stethoscope attends to collapsing people. Later he comes to resemble an elephant, torso swaying stethoscope dangling, since Miller's purpose is also to remind us of our primitive roots and the natural world. Scratch a lager lout, be seems to be saying, and you will find a tribal animal, which is all very true and potentially interesting and deserves a more articulate exposition.

Graeme Miller made me want to scream. And where was he? After a fleeting appearance at the start, he returns three-quarters of the way in carrying a briefcase. In it is a sheep's skull, but a noose would be more fitting. By financing this enterprise, the Place Theatre has given him a rope to hang himself.

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women

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Attractive, intelligent, outgoing female, 28, 5'4", enjoys sport.

Casing, outgoing termate, 5'4", with a great personality, is seeking a mature, caring female, 23-34, Stockon or Middlesbrough area.



GORGEOUS & SUCCESSFUL Arly woman, (no realty), seeks pro-fessional men, 30-45, for some good laughs, Croyden London, 1219387 NORTH WALES SASED

Me: stim, professional blonde, 39, enjoys ans, countryside, having fun, seeks your confident, active, intelligent, spontaneous maie. 37-45. Call me.

LIVE A LITTLE!
Charming, wity, mueligent lemsle,
N/S, full of surprises with a sest for
file, seets sout mate, 45-53, with
same enthusiasm, telly addicts need
not apply. N London/Hertland-shire or
surrounding trees. TS-5392

OANCE OF OPTIMISM CAUVAGE OF UP IMEISM
Come dance with my. I need a witness to my life. Attractive, untriligent, black female, seeks like-minded man, 40-60, any nationality, to talk to, laugh, share with and understand.

laugh, share with and understand. London, 15536 SEEKING SCORPIO SIm Dutch lady, 62, enjoys gardening and life, is seeding a warm, carmy and life, is seeding a warm, carmy and successful gentleman, for a long-lasting relationship, 155286 EUROPEAN CONNECTION Attractive, silm, independent, professional brunetts; petite, life the arts, opera, classical music, bavel, social science, seeling stratifies, successful, genuine, sensible, professional male, 45-50, for happy relationship. 176276

CELTIC LASS Single Intel female, pravel profession-al, very down-to-earth, is seeking a tall, dark male, N'S, to enjoy classical sic, the great outdoors, and much,

ATTRACTIVE & CLASSY
Very attractive, simil ternaje, 49, 56°, dark hail, intelligent, interesting, enjoys good food/ware and male company, is seeking a successful, professional male, aged 47-56, who is groung but gentle. This 28 NEW FOREST GRADUATE
Attractive, stim, bronde, arristic, 54°, enjoys arts, theathe, eating out, seeks hat bothing, easygoing, intelligent, professional male, 36-45. Could previous calless please call.

Intelligent, professional male, 36-45.
Could previous catiers please call
egain. \$25633
GET IT TOGETHER
Outle extrover female. 37, 5'5'.
enjoys criema, eating out, travel and
lite in general, seeks talt male, 35-45.
N/S, who is nice, honest and good furt, for interesting and happiness. London, 276415 CHRISTIAN Confident lemain, 32, released, non-judgemental, socially aware, edector interests, enjoys bie's sample plea-

LEICESTER AREA
Amactive, professional Hindu female,
28, 58', Sensitive, caring, formanic,
confident and strong-willed, with
down-to-earth personality, valued
interests, is seaking a caring, reliable,
amotocrafty mature Indian Hindu
male, aged 25-38, 5 10'+, for possihis conomisment \$55001 ble commitment. 276291

CALLING THE UNIVERSE
Outer smile, sharp mind, gentle
rouch, simy laughter Female, 40s,
is seeking a real man, 45-60, for speak mapit, London area, 256,335
WARMITH & KINDNESS
Sought and given by goddess, also
interested in walls, theatre, music an
and laughing in bed. Altractive, professonal, 42, London based, brough distance not important, 253,41
UNIVEFILLEO ROMANTIC
Patite, green-eyed, sensitive artist,
loves countrylede, gardening and all
things felling, looking for passionate
frendship, seeks true soul male, 40s,
with similar interests, to share
explore and eney, Oron, 25641)

explore and enery Oren. 25 6411

WANTED Professional, independent female, 43, traisipent, humorous, outgoing, seeks sensitive, thoughtful, adverturous male. West Metands, 276224.

SARPLY THE BEST Attractive, bright, vivacious female, 47, seeks good-looking, solvent, easy-going male, for fun, trendstop and socialising. South Yorks area. 2564.7.

ATTRACTIVE, FEISTY DOCTOR Divorced single mum, 44, interested in current atlains, travel, outdoor pursuits, seeks humorous, intelligent male. NS, for interesting, passibly more. Glouosigershine area. 256397.

SUCCESSIFUL SINGLE. It you're an unanasched male, 30s, attractive, creative and intelligent, into music, cluiss, conversation, travel, fleeting, then I would like to heat from the control of the promises of the professional control of the professions.

music, clubs, conversation, travel, theatre, then I would like to hear from you. 25578 SOMERSET FEMALE Dark-haved, dark-eyed female. 31, seeks chartsmatic, solvent, simmish, bright male, who doesn't mind lying about how we met. 255942 LEEOS BASED Professional terrule 28 these travel. LEEDS BASED
Professional lemale 28, Wes travel, photography, lood, wine, beer flowing convertation, looking for male with GSOH, who loves life, 256423
NEW YOYAGE

Attractive, start woman, ex-nursing saster, enjoys country life, salfing, music, seeking interesting, active, unpreferrious, emotionally available, professional male, 50-60, ideally in the East of England, 17/6338 SEERING SOMEONE SPECIAL Caring, genuine, loving lady, 59, 411°, GSOH, NS, medium build, engoys line dancing, swimming, wathing, meeting people, seeks genuine periferrion, 60-65, loy lifendship, companionship, possible relationship, 18-629, prompanionship, possible relationship. 18-629, professional seeks genuine periferrionship, 18-629, professional seeks genuine for the companionship of the companion

Creative, slim female, is seeking a fit male, aged 30-40, for romance. Scotland. 17:6266 SEEKS SOUL MATE Attractive, Ivoly, fun, Intelligent, lov-ing lemale, with many interests, seeks similar man, late 305-early 40s, for companionship, laughs, and loving, long-term relationship.

IN SEARCH OF DOBDIN ethe, vivacious, attractive single other, early 40s, but get at heart, ell-educated/read/travelled, with an well-educated readmanded, with a result, well-educated readmanded, with a results to energy and opmism, seeking an honourable partiernan, 40-55, to share the usual cultural activities and gauns in the country London, 20-52-22.

LUST FOR LIFE

Attractive certain cutoding his leaves Auraciave, antairc, outgoing, fun-lowing, professional lady, sâm, blonde, interessad in the aris, good food and wine, densiting, holidays, seeking attractive, sensitive, kind, intelligent, well-educated, professional man. 45-55, to share interactic. Levitor, 199536.



MATE FOR LIFE Asian male, 43, seeks smart, kind, Attractive male, 33, loving, caring, with varied interests, which includes, travel, music, seeks sincere, attractive temale, 20-45, for long-term relationship. #8422

HILL OF BEANS
Young-looking student counsellor
aged 34, 613". easygoing, cantig,
moughthat and humorous, enjoys
films, earing out and relaxing with
triands, is seeking an independent,
cantig fernier, to enjoy life with.
Newcastle area, £75287
TALLAFRICAN-AMERICAN
Male, 31". Blass music, sport, mavel,
seeks independent lady, over 25, to
share tun times, maybe more.
\$75683

share fun dries, mayo 12:6283 BLACK & GENTLE onaca 6 GENTLE
Black Retainer graduate, NrS,
GSOH, lowes the ans. traval and
good lood, seeks positive, professlonal woman, 28-38, race and color
unimportant, with or without chitchen,
for possible 1-stationship. 126277
CULTURED BLACK MALE
Abbullete, considers and carrier Arboulate, conscious and caring male, 54, is seeling a lemale parm who has smalar attributes, 176162
SQUL MATE SEARCH
Tall, artractive, hard working male,

Tall, attractive, hard working male, 25, into artiques and property reno-vation, seeking intelligent tenals company, by the actions and relation-step. 25:275 TAKEN FOR A RIDE? TAKEN FOR A RIDE? Morches readster and driver, seeks lady passenger/co-driver, under 60. NS Driver, 5'6'. unattached, really quite rice, wide interests, for friend-sho, perhaps more. Cembridge area, 270,00% in red-haired man, 27, enloys outdoors, razure, travel, food, music, seeks similar temale, age unimportant, to share the good filmings with. SW England, 170,00%

tant, to share the good things with. SW England, 176399.

The SW England, 176399.

The SW England, 17639.

The caring, characteristic, cancerian males, 34/31, 51076, blue and green eyes, brown half and reason-thiny hardscorne, enjoy puths, chema, lineatre, good food, the seeking two intelligent, ettractive, sophisticated leadles under 30 176271.

BATH MALE.

Duild male, 41, NS, com the villebile.

Quiet male. 41. N/S, own flat, slightly disabled, into chema, aviation, meals distinct, much charta, aveaind, mean out. computing, seeking lady, up to 45, for friendship, evenings out and maybe more. \$26270

CELTIC LADY SOUGHT

Mid-303, good body, to be wined and Mici-30s, good body, to be wined and dired by handsome host, 62.

SURNY OUTLOOK
Teacher, 47, 510, mendy, easygoing name, finds interest in many
easpeats of the, would like to share
Hendeling with an attractive, injell-

Pretendus, cpinionated man, 43, hairy, hook-nosed, bearpole, with attude, seeks raveling, independent, creative gealdess, to share a bit of life, Solvera, single, sane, Sussea.

SOUL MATE SEARCH
Attractive architect, 30s, 55°, deflugreen-blue, simmish, N/S, outgoing, spontaneous, romartic, loves spont, cycling, walks, ans, outsithions, ravel and socialising, seeks creative female, on similar wavelength, loy possible senous relationship. Twictenham greatly, £76422
HANDSONE DEVIL.
SIM, professional Asian mate, 34, emprys ans, cinema, music, glas, seeks bright, fun-loving female, for friendship plus, London area. £76217
FREE TICKETSI
Tal, caring male, young 40, classical

TRIE INCHETS, young 40, classical music journalist, seeks lively, intelligent gril, 20s. to concerts, opera, romanos, 155218
CALIFORNIA DREAMING

Tall, dark, pool-looking male, 36, GSOH, enjoys music, going out, club-bing, travel, seeks lun-loving, opti-mistic and attractive fernale. 276220 YOUNG AT HEART Young AT HEART Intelligent, essygoing male, 39 but fiveligent, essygoing male, 39 but fivels 21, into music, travel, going our, staying in, is seeking a similar female, for fun, inventiship and romance. Yorksite or N England. 29-3342
RED HAIR, BLUE EYES
Young, it male, 20s. seeke tethogad

Young, lit male, 20s, seeks tattooed woman, for hun and triendship. Centing replies only dease. 176335
ON OFFER
Tal. attractive Englishman, seeks sensitive, uncomplicated, educated, black printerni, for 1-2-1 relationship. 176104
SENSITIVE

SENSITVE Male Fr. carlylinown, sim build. Jepanese national, IT engineer, likes pues, bers-chins, good convension, lims, music, playing gittar, seeks sensitive, carmy, midependent, lenate, similar age, London, 17:6340 CAMBRIDGE ACADEMIC...

39, with much in learn seeks and

inteligent male, late 30s, easygoing, GSOH, enjoys staying in, going out, coolung, music, omema, theane, caeks female, for possible relation-

MARGINALLY ECCENTRIC
Preterious, opinionated mate, 43,
beanpole, with amande, seeks ravishing, independent, creative goddess,
to share a bit of life with Solvent, singic, same, Sussex, 17,6223
FRANCOPHILE
Divorced, aquanan male teacher,
young 55, more iich than wealthy,
enjois godd conversation, awimming,
chess, gardering, wine, travel, seeks
blonde, sim lady, 30+, NE or anywhere, 37,6267
BRIGHTONLONDON
Male, with interest in photography,
counselling, cultural studies, toreign
tavels, aware of secul politics, senstive but not submissive, tall, silm,
and fit, seeks new formule trand.

15,6438

DESPERATE Employative distance by previous relationships. Male, 50s, believes in excense, Into reading, sport, cycling, is seeking a Bran, aquarten or gerninit emale, any age, for intendable first, then who knows? TESES UNIVERSITY GRADUATE Commonities make 41 5° silm, the Cosmopolitan male, 41, 5', silm, itt. likes intellectual challenges and laughter. Is seeking a very silm, attractive partner, aged 28-35, who's dispension and seeking in the seeking and seeking a se

seeking men

LONDON AREA Black male, 26, 5'8", 13 stone medi-um build, with goatae, turnboring, interasting job, loves travel, societi-ing, meats out, chema, seeks eusy-going, turn, irealitipent white male, 25-30, possibly over 5'8", GSCHH, to gen-erally enjoy life, \$78337

...fundamentally unsulomissive, 40-50ish, aggressively successful (men-fant you scary), yet your after ego screams for influencial pleasures, for creative dominant, unpossessive. SEEKS FEMALE.
Normal, everyday male, 43, 56", fikes bowking, music, otherne, eating out, driving, seeks honest, female, 68OH, for tong-term, toving relationship. 25224

THE LONELINESS OF...
...the long distance numer. Interesting, unconventional, intelligent, happy, culturally sware, 40s man, fikes ruming, sport, charma, music, seeks silm, fit, submissiva temale, for happiness, Oxford, 201225

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محدًا من الاجل









Whatever happened to Okri, Isherwood, Durrell and Shields? Peter Parker counts the bodies not in the Library

Old masters and dry Martinis

ccording to the subti-tle of their book, Carmen Callil and Colm Tóibin have selected "The 200 best novels in English since 1950". This is the sort of project that always causes arguments since, as almost any poll of best hooks will quickly show, one person's top 200 is another's slush-pile. Having once edited a similar book, which attempted to take oo the whole 20th century, I started reading this one with some sympathy.

I know all about the sbeer volume of fiction from which selections must be made, the difficult choices, the inclusions and omissions that readers and reviewers pounce upon. Callil and Toibin assure us that their collaboration has been reasonably harmonious. "We chose these books together on the basis that the idea of two people disputing - hotly at times, not at all on other occasions



The Modern Library by Carmen Callil and Colm Toibin Picador, £12.99, 240pp

 is always preferable to one person laying down the law," they tell us. In only two cases were their differences left unresolved, when each editor fought for different novels to represent Saul Bellow and V S Naipaul. These two writers get two entries each; in every other instance authors are represented by a single work.

The Modern Library was embargoed and reviewers' copies arrived in jiffy-bags labelled: "Confidential. To be opened by addressee only". Not unnaturally, though as it turns out quite unreasonably, this raised expectations that the book would be highly controversial. Attitudes are struck in the introduction, where the editors (one Australian, the other Irish) state they both come from what they are pleased to call "the Free World" (incorrectly defined as not England or America). They also claim to have "not the slightest interest in political correctness", but neither circumstance seems to have impinged upon their choices or their comments. They have put

inoffensive little book. "Any list such as this is entirely personal," Callil and Toibin acknowledge. This is undoubtedly true, so it was perhaps unwise of them to give so slender a volume so authoritative a title as The Modern Library. Any modern library that does not include work by the following authors cannot help looking a little depleted: Paul Theroux, Barry Unsworth,







Missing, presumed not wanted: clockwise from top left: Carol Shields, William Boyd, Joyce Carol Oates, Ben Okri, Hilary Mantel and Vikram Seth don't make it into the latest attempt to define the modern library

Peter Ackroyd, Paul Auster, Paul Bai- Gore Vidal and Angus Wilson. ley, Nicholson Baker, John Barth, Donald Barthelme, William Boyd. Malcolm Bradbury, Brigid Brophy, Truman Capote, William Cooper, Lawrence Durrell, John Fowles, Jane Gardam, Georgina Hammick, vin, Susan Hill, Christopher Hope, John Irving, Christopher Isherwood, Dan Jacobson, Ken Kesey, Hanif Kureishi, Laurie Lee, Penelope Lively, Alison Lurie, Rose Macaulay, Sbena Mackay, Hilary Mantel, Candia McWilliam, Nicholas Mosley. Joyce Carol Oates, Flann O'Brien. Ben Okri, Barbara Pym, Bernice Rubens, Vikram Seth, Carol Shields,

This is to list only the most obvi-

ous omissions. An equally long rollcall could be made of writers who may not be in the mainstream of Englishlanguage fiction but might have hoped for a place in a book which promises the length of a publisher's hlurb on

our gratitude for drawing attention ommendation. The book is deterto a number of writers whose work minedly-indeed, sometimes noisily may be unfamiliar: Sam Hanna Bell, Margaret Laurence, Jessica Anderson, Balraj Khanna, Kaye Gibbons, Bapsi Sidhwa, Norman Rush, the novels discussed had been put Eugene McCabe. In any case, we into some sort of historical or bioneed to judge the book less by who's graphical context.

in and who's out than by what we learn about those novels the editors see fit to endorse.

Each entry runs to around 250 words, with a supplementary couple of lines about the writer. This is about acket of the average But, it is all too easy to carp about and many of the entries do not is "the sort of book that you would omissions, and the editors deserve aspire much beyond that level of rec-- anti-academic, and while this populist thrust is generally welcome, it would have been belpful if more of

PAPERBACKS

On the whole the editors are content to give us a few lines of plot followed by a hurst of uninformative enthusiasm. "This is a most sympathetic novel, full of ideas, endearing, full of gusto," they write of Peter Carey's Oscar and Lucinda.

stay up all night to finish"; East of Eden is "hugely credible, readable and vivid"; Catch-22 "is a dark and disturbing anti-war book as well as a great comic novel".

Some comments are absurdly inappropriate: it is neither useful for the reader nor flattering to Muriel Spark to be told that The Prime

A WEEK IN BOOKS

of Miss Jean Brodie is "laced with mother's wit and wisdom". Other

judgements are nonsensical: On the

Road "has all the importance of a

classic rock album or road movie".

When the editors write that reading

Alan Hollinghurst's The Folding

Stor is "like contemplating one of the

great paintings of the Flemish Old

Masters", or that in The Little Dis-

turbances of Man, "Grace Paley

adds greatly to the joy of life, each

story like sipping a very strong, very dry Martini", we want to ask:

Precision, it seems, is not some-

thing that troubles the editors great-

ly. Far more disturbing than the

banality of some of their judge-

ments, however, is the quality of

much of their prose. We have no rea-

son to expect a former publisher -

even one as distinguished as Callil

- to be able to write well, but Toibin

is a critically acclaimed novelist

such sentences as: "Raymond Carver chose this selection of his stories

before he died, a permanent deterrent to the rash of imitators who have

since appeared. Fortunately his writ-

ing is inimitable." Who or what is a

deterrent? Carver? His tautologi-

cally chosen selection? The fact he

made it before rather than after his

death? If his writing is inimitable,

who are these imitators? It is par-

ticularly unfortunate that a novel

such as Ruth Prawer Jhabvala's

Heat and Dust should be described

as "gracefully written, finely con-

structed" in a sentence that contin-

ues: "it fascinates both as a love story,

and as a sensuous evocation of what

the English lost most in India - the

soul and feeling those sent out to rule

her longed for, yet feared the most."

The book is at its most embar-

rassing when its authors aspire

towards what is presumably in-

tended to he "colourful" writing.

Our attention is drawn to "the ver-

hal rainstorm that Amis pours

through Self's repellent mouth" in

Money: a character in Henry Green's Nothing is depicted "ma-

nipulating malice like a sten gun";

Khanna "laughs with his chorus of

fools, while his sharp eye makes sub-

tler mincemeat of religious differ-

classic English detective story has

inveigled readers all over the world

into the mysteries of Eoglish life",

one can only suppose that they

think that "inveigle" is a posh word

for "introduce". Another attempted

as when they tell us that the words

of an "unmistakable" sentence from

one of VS Pritchett's stories "chivvy

You finish The Modern Library re-

flecting on the irony that a book

trumpeted as "Everyone's essential

guide to the world's greatest plea-

sure: Reading" provides so little of

syponym for "introduce" is "ch

us into the Pritchett world".

When the editors write that "The

ences and useless taboos."

Since the entries are unattributed, we cannot tell who is responsible for

and a fine literary journalist.

How, precisely?



BOYD TONKIN A happy family of

constant readers

WORLD BOOK Day unfolded yesterday with an array of Comic Relief-style stunts. Readers unswayed by sermons from Vanessa Feltz should still back its chief good cause; Book Aid International (at 39-41 Coldharbour Lane, London SE5), which last year sent 735,000 vital volumes to

educators in 54 countries. Even in richer climes, books may do much more than furnish a room, In Ex Libris (Allen Lane, £9.99), Anne Fadiman collects 18 charmingly obsessive essays about ber lifetime of hibliophilia. Fadiman (who edits The American Scholar) is the sort of print junkie who can spend "many a lonely night in small-town botel rooms consoled by the Yellow Pages". Even in the week of her first child's hirth. she got stuck into an 1877 primer on "distaff virtues" hy a priest. Then she asked her husband to grade her on Father O'Reilly's scale "religious fervour, 0; thrift, 3"... hut "kindness, 10; truthfulness, 10".

As those scores suggest, this witty book can sound a teensy-weensy hit smug. Fadiman is one of those elegantly upmarket US journos who seem so much less grubby than their Brit peers. Writers' memoirs and early novels often tell a tale of learning snatched from the jaws of poverty or mockery. Not so Fadiman, who hails from a bookworshipping family and still cherishes the teenage marginalia in ber copy of Middlemarch ("page 37: 'Grrr'; page 261: 'Bullshit': page 294: 'Yccch'").

My delight in a fellow addict's printed pleasures withered only once: as sbe remembered her folks clustered around the US equivalent of University Challenge, trouncing all e jocks up on the This cute foursome called itself "Fadiman U." and only lost to their rivals on the TV twice "in five or six years of competition". One feels (unlike the author) somewbat lost for words except, perhaps, "Grrr", or even "Yccch".

SPOKEN WORD By CHRISTINA HARDYMENT

ADD THE appropriate music to a firstclass reader of a first-class story. and the listening experience is even more enhanced.

new novel is a

Vikram Seth's

An Equal Music is the music

We bring the world to

your door see page 24 of The Independent Magazine

tale of ohsessive love among musicians which should be awarded a place next to Casablanca and Brief Encounter in the pantheon of noble renunciations of forbidden love. Alan Bates reads Kati Nicholl's sensitive abridgement brilliantly,

taking us more and more deeply into the at first only opaquely perceived central

character. But it

Read by Alan Bates which is the Orion, 6hrs 25mins, tour de force. In the book, Seth makes symbolic use of particular passages from particular composers played in a particular way.

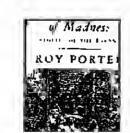
Producer Nicholas Jones DESPITE ITS litchy format. enriches the reading by the profuse illustrations in letting us hear the music this soappy guide to the mentioned, culminating in swinging decade will trigger the "equal music" of potent memories in baby-Bach's Art of the Fugue. boomers: Torrey Cnnyon smoulders; Ursula Andress reaches for her diving knife (Dr No opened in 1962); and Sharon Tate poses in op-art jeans (she was murdered on 9 August 1969). Oo the minus escape THE TRAVEL BOOK CLUB side, there is too much about the Beatles and not enough on Vietnam. Companion vol-



Freedomland by Richard Price. Bloomsbury. £6.99 546pp

READING RICHARD Price -

one of Hollywood's hest paid hacks - is like living through a particularly hyper episode of NYPD Blues. Author of Clockers and several screenplays (The Sea of Love, Ransom. Price's latest book is a meaty thriller set in New Jersey's scummier housing projects and run-down A&E departments. The book's bero, DI Lorenzo Council. faces a long summer with the disappearance of a young boy from his mother's car and an unsolved double homicide.



A Social History of Madness hy Roy Porter. Phoenix. £8.99, 261pp

"MADNESS IS a foreign country" but, as Porter reveals, it has its own rationality. Sketching a design for Kew, George III said that it was "not bad for a man who is mad." An outburst by John Perceval, incarcerated son of a PM, rings as true today as in 1838: "Drench a young man with medicines, shut him in a room of ranting madmen... what good can you expect?" Noting "the mad talk about God, kings and devils as we do... with different nuances", Porter says "we all have phantoms in the head."



Once in a House on Fire by Andrea Ashworth. Picodor, £6.99, 330pp

OXFORD ACADEMIC Andrea Ashworth's memoir of growing up Northern, poor and abused is a hard book to categorise. Told from a child's point of view, with no retrospective spin, it feels more like a novel than a memoir not that any of this stops it being an unputdownable read. Brought up in innercity Manchester, nourished on Spangles and Refreshers. Ashworth tells bow she and her sisters survived life in a housebold dominated by a violent stepfather.

INSPIRATIONS CRIME WRITER REGINALD HILL

Place: The Lake District where I live. If I had to pick one specially blessed spot, there's a fell top, not one of the highest but in sight of the highest, unapproached by any of the Wainwright super-highways, where a man can sit in airy solitude and think Wordsworthian thoughts, and it's called ... but no; you find your own!

umes cover the Fifties, Sev-

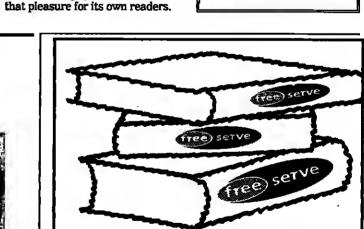
eoties and Nineties.

Collins Gem, £4.99

192pp

Play: Twelfth Night. The Film: For fun. The Man at his most generous, Producers: for fantasy The Wizard of Oz: but for with characters ranging guthusting impact, it has to be On the Waterfront which from the irresistible to the unspeakable, humour frooi I first saw way back when it was still possible subtle social commentary to farce, language from vigorous vernacular to to stumble on a great languorous poetry. In a movie unawares without setting which weaves having heard it discussed ad nauseam on the together Illyrian silk and Elizabethan worsted.

Artwork: From the 1985 Renoir exhibition, the Jeunes filles au piano. A young girl leans forward to study the music with her brunette frieod by her side. There were three versions on display. I preferred the earliest, an unfinished oil sketch, because to me incompleteness is what the painting is about.



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HOW TO MAKE

MMPUTER AS

Cheat your way to a perfect tan for the May bank holiday says Nathalie Curry

clothing? Thank- on your skin. fully, you don't have reach for the bottle.

Everyone knows how a tan can bring out the colour of make your curves and dim-

xpose those bare roast in the summer sun are difficult part is knowing what to legs? Discardyour gone. Even 20 minutes covlayers of winter ered in SPF15 can take its toll

So, fake it - and, no, that to be either brave or booked on doesn't have to mean Tangoa two-week beach holiday. Just coloured cheeks and scary streaks. Straightforward to apply and natural-looking. some take tans now include UV your eyes and sometimes even protection and even smell decent. With the new generation ples seem endearing, but the of gels, sprays and lotions, fakedays when we could bappily tanning is a breeze. The really ucts are also great value.

choose. Find out what our testers thought (below) or just experiment but make sure it's tinted so that you can see which

bits you've tanned. Don't be put off by the high price of some fake tans. In general, they are well worth the money and you will get good results. However, price is not always an indication of quality and some of the cheaper prodright, set aside enough time to apply it. It may sound obvious better the results.

First, cleanse and exfoliate your skin thoroughly. Dry yourself property, since damp areas of your tan and, before applying the self-tan massage some hand cream into your palms to prevent them turning brown.

"instantly broazes, for

a sunkissed look. A nat-ural, lasting tan devel-ops after just one hour."

Go Bronze Tinted Self-

Tanner For Face, £16.50.

Esteé Lauder (0800

525 501)

Self-tun

Once you've got the product long, even strokes. Use it sparingly on elbows, knees and knuckles and keep it away from but the more care you take, the your hairline and eyebrows. And resist the urge to wrap yourself in your best white bathrobe for at least 15 minutes!

Finally, if tans are really not of skin will affect the evenness your thing but you long for some sunshine, treat yourself to Philosophy's Sunbathing bubble-bath. Lie back and immerse yourself in summery. Next, apply the fake tan with tangerine bubbles.



"Apply for immediate, deep colour. Avoids mistakes as you can see where you've applied the lotion."

Self-Sun bronzewear tinted

self-tanner, £12.50, Clinique (0171-409 6951)

"Cuick and easy to use for a golden tan. Deliciously Indulgent fragrance of apricots." Ambre Solaire Moisturising Bronzer or Express Spray Bronzer, both £6.99 (from

CHECK IT OUT ANDREW EDMUNDS

Dandies Sans Souci' by William Heath

deteriorate further: "The

acceptable is 1790, as the

plate was made in 1741."

worth £1,200, whereas the

slightly fainter one, made

40 years later, was worth

History lesson over,

Edmunds' showed me a

sheath of lewd lithographs

depicting mass orgies and

overwrought scenes of bedlam. "Apart from

politics, it's all tits and

burns," he admitted. One.

by Gillray, was so subtle

and prettily done, it was

Fashionable Contrasts; -

or - The Duchess's Little

Shoe Yeilding [sic] to the

encased in a tiny pair of

embroidered slippers,

pair of larger feet in buckled boots. It refers to

the gush of fatuous

the newly married

'dainty little shoe".

early-19th-century

caricatures, all with

original colouring, for

adulation which

nestling either side of a

journalists showered on

Duchess of York and her

contains late-18th and

The "assorted" drawer

For Sales

Magnitude of the Duke's Foot (1792) shows two feet,

hard to discern its

scurrilous intent.

So a print made during

Hogarth's lifetime was

last gasp of being

only £350.

A RECENT client of Andrew Edmunds was hoping to add to his collection of kings' mistresses. I went into his Sobo shop with £25 to spend, and came out with two gorgeously attired dandies. This may not seem unreasonable, but Edmunds' good-quality antique prints are bound to be expensive since he refuses to tear up old books for their engravings, or add colour to 18th-century prints. For art-lovers jaded with New Neurotics and has-been YBAs (Young British Artists, 18th-century satirical caricatures are

worth every penny. Edmunds' elegant print shop in Soho is a time capsule of Georgian London, beloved by art museums around the word. It was originally the front room of a Georgian house, and its fireplace. mantelpiece and panelled walls haven't changed since the 18th century. The prints themselves are housed in late-18th century mahogany haberdashers' drawers one still bears the label "riding things") and a Regency portfolio stand.

If you want to browse. Edmunds will give you a guided tour of the history of print-making over the past 200 years. To illustrate a technical point be may pick up a print that is casually lying around in loose-sheet covers on a table. In my case, it was two prints of The Enraged Musician by Hogarth. Prints of this engraving were being made by Boydell (the printer who bought up Hogarth's plates from his widowi until the First World War, but each time the prints were made, the quality of the plate would

around £100. George Cruickshank's The Cholic (1319) shows a howl of anguish coming from an aristocratic lady in yellowand pink finery, as she is tormented by two demons tightening a cord around her waist. Far too vicious for me, I wanted to buy a deliciously plump lady entitled Fat, Fair and Forty for a friend of mine who is, well, exactly that, but Edmunds hinted it might be taken amiss.

Instead, I bought an 1820s William Heath brothel scene, Dandies Sons Souci, showing two semi-conscious shop boys being robbed by prostitutes. "Like kids with trainers these days," Edmunds explained, "they'd spent all their money on clothes." The satirist's point is always worth making. LILIAN PIZZICHINI

Andrew Edmunds, 44 Lexington Street, London W1 (0171-437 8594). He can also be found, today and tomorrow, from 10am to 6pm, at the London Original Print Fair, Royal Academy of Arts, . Burlington House, Piccodilly, London W1 (0171-300 8000). Entrance costs £5



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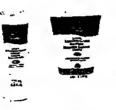
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Fake tan smell is very



"Results are darker

than expected - a beach

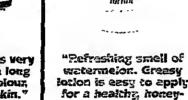
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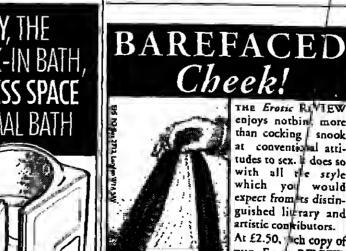
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The wash of the Titans

he imminence of much bigger than any other machine Millennium that you wonder why its prospective manufacturer, Monotub Industries. seems to have reawakened English inventors' collective spirit of adventure. Hard on the heels of such fin de siècle mouldbreakers as Trevor Baylis's clockwork radio and James Dyson's bagless vacuum cleaner comes the Titan washing machine, the latest in a series of inventions which attempt to invest dull domesticity with a sense of glamour and excitement. Not that the prototype I saw demonstrated at London's Design Museum last week looks superficially any different from an ordinary machine. White, boxy and standard-sized with a conventional "porthole" window, it would blend in well at any Comet or Curry's. But for the unusually large door, that is, Open it and you immediately grasp the machine's chief selling point. The

interior is huge. So

didn't christen it the Tardis. "It accommodates 40 per cent more washing than other machines of the same size," its hullish inventor and Monotub founder, Martin Myerscough, tells me proudly before launching into an animated exposition of the Titan's other major ben-

efits: a removable plastic washing basket for convenient loading and unloading; an inclined drum which allows easier access to the contents; and the facility to open the machine at any point during the cycle without flooding the kitchen floor. Only those lucky enough to avoid

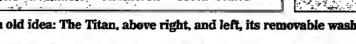
regular laundry duties would dismiss such features as minor innovations. I'm hardly in the Good Housekeeping Institute league myself but, as one New Manly enough to take on my fair share of the washing load, I'm predicting success for the Titan when it reaches the market some time next year. For one thing it's a machine that, unlike my own

for another, I won't need to waste time trying to force open the machine in mid-cycle to add the smalls I've accidentally scattered down the stairs; finally and most important, this is a machine that won't mix up my socks or wash stray coloureds with precious whites. With the plastic clothes basket - you can huy and rotate two if you wish - and the 20/20 view of what goes in and comes out of the Titan, there's simply no longer anywhere for odd socks to hide.

Bosch, really feels big enough:

If it does take off, the Titan will be ready doing rather well as financial director of KS Biomedix, an arthritis-drug company be

> helped launch on the stockmarket five years ago. So what, I wonder, sets a chartered accountant turned biotech entrepreneur thinking about ironing out the irritating aspects of our domestic appliances? The answer, it seems, is a desire to make money comhined with a generous dash



naval architect, consciously opting Cock & Hen and Myerscough him-Martin Myerscough's second winner. for a more lucrative career at the age self on 15 prototypes and four sep-The Clitheroe-born 42-year-old is al- of 30 but never abandoning what he arate research aurveys before calls "my compulsion to invent". "It settling on its final form. Gardener makes no apologies was a chat I had with a repair man years ago that started me thinking for the understated styling of the about washing," he says . "I realised machine. "We could have taken the that all washing machines were the jazzy, coloured route that Zanussi same. They are all designed to suit has with its new machines, but that manufacturers rather than the pub- could have been alienating," she lic. That's what I set out to change." argues. "It isn't about novelty. It's

> couldn't do it on his own. He ap- enough to be recognised as a washproached Trevor Baylis who put ing machine. We're communicating him in contact with TKO, the Lon- its benefits in a form with which don-based product design specialists people are already familiar in their who were behind the Baygen clock- own kitchens." work radio. The Titan has taken

scough is something of a designer led by partner Anne Gardener, workmanque himself. He trained as a ing alongside product engineers

Myerscough soon realised that he about making the Titan familiar

It remains to be seen if the great shape in the five years since then, British public will be prepared to with TKO's women dominated team, trade in its Hoovers and Hotpoints

for an unproven machine made by Bosches for one new Titan? Ironian unknown company. There is however a recent, encouraging, precedent.

cally, industry gossip suggests that

Martin Myerscough's chief compe-

tition may yet come from one of the

innovators he so admires. James

Dyson is said to be planning the

launch of a new washing machine

later this year - purported to be one

that removes all water from clothes.

try to keep my nine-year-old machine limping on until we see what

millennial wonder the dual-cyclone

king has up his sleeve. But now

that I have seen the Titan I reckon

that, if Dyson is to do for washing

what he did for vacuuming, his new

machine will have to be big as well

Bearing this in mind, I think I'll

"One thing Dyson's success proved is that if the product is different enough and good enough, hrands and names don't count for much," says Myerscough. "Besides, I think people are already dissatisfied with what is currently available."

He is not expecting a nation to be rushing to trade in their old machines en masse as they did with the Dyson. "Washing machines are too pricey for that," he admits, but points out nonetheless that the existing two million people who trade in their washing machine for a new one each year already provide plenty of potential customers.

Call 0171-917 1863 for details of the So would I swap my two ageing Titan washing machine

DESIGN LINES



A TIARA made of paper string (above, by Angela O'Kelly), garments of silk, copper wire and fishing-line are among the more implausible objects that hover uncertainly between fashion and fantasy. the wardrobe and the wall, in a new exhibition, Wearable Art, at Contemporary Applied Arts in London.

Apart from Victoria Metcalf's timber frocks (recently paraded on the catwalk by Julien Macdonald), the show consists of four jewellers and four makers of textiles whose work is united by an invigorating level of experimentation.

In fact, much of what is on show is eminently wearable, including Asta Barrington's embroidered bags in frosted hlue, lilac and silver (to say nothing of her exquisite silk and felted scarves), Anna Gordon's elegant geometric chain necklaces and Carole Waller's layered and painted dresses, shirts and skirts.

Many pieces are gloriously flamboyant: when Joan Bakewell wore one of Kate Wilkinson's feather and crystal ruffs at the Bafta awards a few years ago it was a muchphotographed sensation; and Maria Hansen's metal bracelet, spreading out like an Andy Goldsworthy twig raft, would ensure that no one gets too close to you.

Even the more unexpected materials - such as the discs of the Financial Times (360 per inch) making up Angela O'Kelly's torque - have been used to produce things that look good on people. Which is quite different from most art.

ANNABEL FREYBERG Wearable Art is at the CAA.

2 Percy Street, London W1 (0171-436 2344) until 29 May, Mon to Sat 10.30am-5.30pm



New spin on an old idea: The Titan, above right, and left, its removable washing baskets

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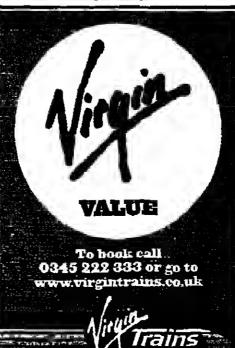
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INDEPENDENT ADVICE FOR THE INDEPENDENT TRAVELLER: FROM THE ONLY NATIONAL NEWSPAPER TRAVEL SECTION THAT REFUSES FREE TRIPS

New England's Pacific coast

Should they have been celebrating St George's Day on the northern Californian coast yesterday? Yes, says Tamsin Murray Leach

cans would he rather learn original New England is not their beloved land of white clapboard churches, colourful autumn leaves and Puritan pilgrims. It isn't even on the East Coast The New England, or Nova Albion, claimed hy Sir Francis Drake for Queen Elizabeth I in 1579 is in fact a small peninsula in California, just orth of San Francisco.

Historians surmise that Point Reyes - a popular R&R spot for weary Bay-area dwellers - is the place most likely to have provided Sir Francis and the world-weary crew of the Golden Hind with rest and repairs on their journey ound the Americas.

Drake spent more than a month shored up in the natural harbour that is now known as Drake's Bay, fixing his ship and hlushingly attempting to persuade the native Miwok Indians that all good Christians ought to keep their privates covered. Pronouncing it "a goodly country, and fruitfull soyle, stored with many blessings fit for the use of man, Drake returned home to deliver the news of this promised land to his queen, only to get distracted by the nasty Spaniards and their Armada. He never returned to settle his claim, and subsequent English colonists took the short route to America, sensibly heading straight across the Atlantic.

Which is a good thing, too, because for the last 420 years, Point Reyes has been largely left alone. After the Spanish discovered San Francisco Bay towards the end of the 18th century, a succession of newly incependent Mexican lords peninsula. Still undeveloped, was turned over to dairy ranchers when the Republic of Mexico lost California to the United States in 1848.

You pass by these ranches as you drive through the area's pastoral lands along Sir Franranch originally titled after a different letter of the alphabet. About a dozen are still in operation today, but Point Reyes remains a wilderness for the most part, a peninsula of rugged coastline, redwood forest and inland estuary.

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The area was declared a National Seashore in 1962, with the inland buffer of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area serving to protect it from the encroaching suburbanisation of the San Francisco region.

The park, which is less than

seemed surprisingly empty when I arrived. I asked a young and healthy-looking park ranger whether it ever got crowded. He replied pleasantly enough that yes, it did get relatively husy during summer weekends, with campsites filled up two months in advance.

"But it's empty during the week," he said as he leant forward and lowered his voice, suddenly conspiratorial. "The people who come here are city folk," he whispered, almost vehemently, "and they need to work weekdays to pay for their \$100,000 houses and \$100,000 Visa hills." He shook his head in disgust at such types. I backed away sheepishly, feeling that my credit card was hurning a hole in my back pocket.

Though tourism has been responsible for the regeneration of the small towns that lie just outside the park's boundaries, locals are fiercely protective of their rural, secluded lifestyle. While some have been fishing or ranching on the Point for generations, many are relics of the Sixties counter-culture, and are strongly opposed to the values of big-city society.

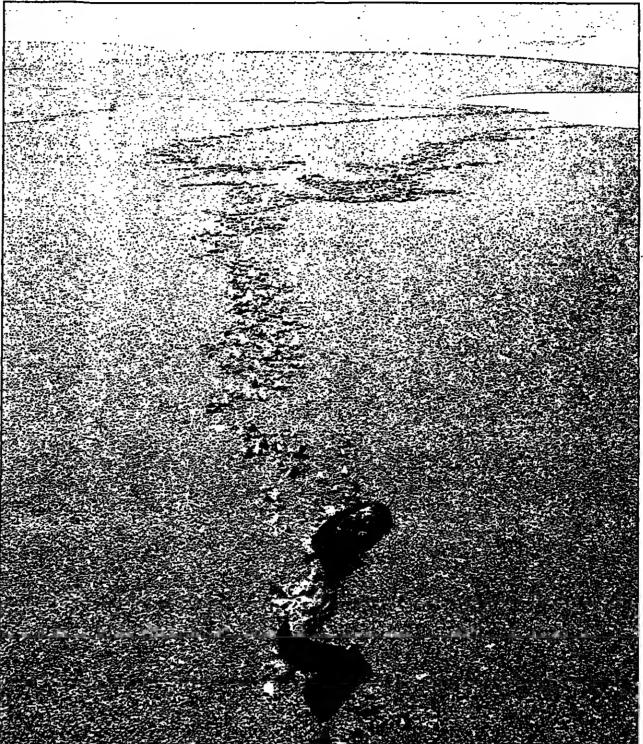
Down in Bolinas, a tiny town on the park's southern tip, the old hippies and young runaways who call the place home have huilt somewhat of a reputation for uprooting road signs. They want Bolinas and its tempting organic bakery to be left in peace, stranded in obscurity for them to enjoy.

It is not quite the enthusiastic welcome that the Miwoks gave Drake. They crowned him with feathers and fell to their knees in supplication, tearing at their chests because they beheved that he was a god.

The Miwoks are long gone, sold into slavery by the Spanish, and their name was mangled by a local resident, George Lucas, for the fuzz-balls in Return of the Jedi; the locals today are a little more offhand. But then, you don't visit Point Reyes for the company - quite

busiest weekends. I hardly saw hut a tendency for fog and rain a soul along the Bear Valley route, which was fine by me. I peered earnestly at the sign which informed me that I was walking directly along the San Andreas Fault; wandered along a fairy-tale babbling brook that meandered through a mossy wood, with the ground carpeted with spring flowers; and startled a small herd of bigeared deer in Divide Meadow.

If it had been a little warmer,



Sir Francis Drake claimed Point Reyes, California for Queen Elizabeth I

and horseback-riding trails in niscent of the old England, hosts show guests the com- marked as a wildlife sanctuary, constituted wildlife. Limantour cis Drake Boulevard, with each Point Reyes, providing plenty of subject to change at any munal kitchen and dorms, as- and it was here that I first Beach rewarded me immedioptions for solitude on even the minute, with plenty of sunshine sign chores and then withdraw realised the biggest difference

> to roll in quickly from the shore. I began my Bear Valley trek on a fresh and breezy morning, picnicked under a blazing sky and speed-walked the last halfmile in a downpour, with memories of childhood holidays in the West Country fresh in my mind.

Wet clothes and the cold stay in the old wooden youth I would have camped in one of room and sunny porch, located of the spot where Drake

There are 150 miles of hiking But the weather here is remi-centre of the park. The hippie

gracefully, leaving everyone to between my new and old Albion.

Drake spent a month fixing his ship and attempting to persuade the native Indians to keep their privates covered

linens, I strolled down to Lihostel with its cosy reading- mantour Beach, within sight wildlife sanctuaries trying to

spring nights prompted me to just get on with it. After sorting I must have spent hours straining my eyes in English convince myself that a partially submerged log was the head

LOTOAID

The beach and estuary are of an otter, or that a seaguil ately with berons, seals frolicking in the surf close to the shore, and a pelican fly-by over a tide that gilded the sands

with reflections from the

William M. Smithey

setting sun. Over 400 species of birds have been sighted at Point Reyes, and some of the seashore's rarer mammals include the elephant seal and a herd of Tule elk, practically extinct until their reintroduction here in 1978. The park is also famous locally as the best spot to watch for grey whales during their annual 12,000 mile



there: There are plenty of discount fares to San Francisco

until the end of June. Non-stop from Heathrow, you can fly on British Airways, United or Virgin Atlantic. Through Trailfinders (0171-937 5400), there is also a return fare of £348 on United in May. If you are prepared to change planes en route, you can get an even lower fare: Flightbookers (0171-

757 3000) quotes £291 on Delta via Cincinatti or Atlanta. The Point Reyes National Seashore is situated off Highway 1 in Marin County, north of San Francisco. Crossing Mount Tamalpas, passing giant redwoods at Muir Woods National Monument and following the rocky coastline of Marin County, the drive alone is practically worth

Permits are required for camping. They can be bought for \$10 per site at the Bear Valley Visitor's Center, or reserved by credit card up to two months in advance by calling 001 415 663 8054 between 9am and 2pm Pacific Daylight Time 1-8 hours BST). Monday to Friday. Reservations are recommended at weekends and during the summer. Campsites are located anything up to six miles from the nearest parking lot and are accessible by foot or mountain hike. Toilets are provided. Water is available, but must be treated: no wood fires are permitted.

USA.

Dorm beds at the youth hostel cost \$12 a night: you do not need YHA membership. Linen and towels can be rented for \$1 each. One private room is available for parents with children aged five or younger. Office bours are 7.30am-9.30am and 4.30pm-9.30pm PST. Reservations are recommended for Friday and Saturday. Hostelling International - Point Reyes, Box 247, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956 (001 415 663 8811); www.hiayh.org/ ushostel/

pnwreg/pointr.htm Provisions can be purchased in the nearby towns of Olema, Inverness and Point Reyes Station. The latter is the higgest settlement in the area. The Bovine Bakery produces scrumptious pastries and great coffee. while the Station House Café is a favourite for its seafood and generous bread-baskets. Both are on the main street. More information: consult National Park Service website www.nps.gov/pore/visit.bt m, or call Bear Valley Visitor's Center (001 415 663 1092).

round-trip migration from the Gulf of Alaska to the Sea of Cortez, with buses ferrying hordes of visitors out to the The days have gone when I

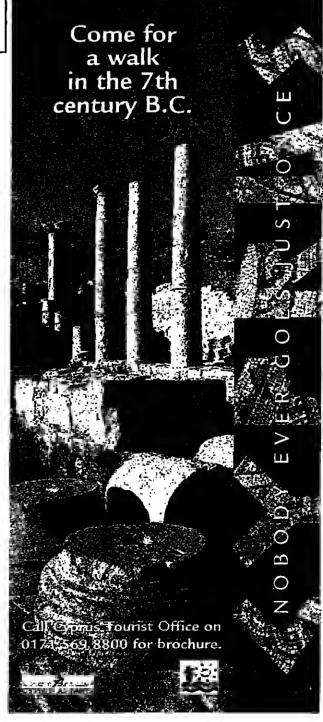
could follow Sir Francis Drake's example and just nail of a shiny sixpence to a post on the Point Reyes shore, thereby

Englishmen. The sixpence is no more, and pound coins are a little too thick for such deeds. Thanks to new technology, I can lighthouse on weekends during however spread the word about the prime watching periods my discovery of New Albion a between December and April. little faster than Drake was

Just don't tell the immigratioo officials when you the Queen's arms in the form arrive in San Francisco that the purpose of your trip is to visit New England - they might get claiming the area for my fellow a little confused.







Hamish McRae takes his family on a five-day course in the Red Sea to find out why diving is the fastest-growing activity holiday,

Taking the plunge

cuba diving is the new skiing. It's not only the fastest-growing form of mainstream activity holiday - skiing used to be - but it also has a similar mix of holiday ingredients: a physical activity, the opportunity to learn a new set of skills, a different view of an extraordinarily beautiful aspect of our planet (looking up through the water instead of down through the clouds), the camaraderie of interesting people, and maybe also that tiny edge of danger. And, yes, if you go for warm waters you get enough of a tan to irritate your colleagues back in the office.

For Britons interested in learning how to dive there are two main options. The first is. or at least until recently has been, a rather militarystyle training, stiff-upper-lip stuff. Here in Britain, under the auspices of the British Sub-Aqua Club (BSAC), you get a thorough training which will equip you to dive in the murky, difficult and often dangerous waters around the UK as well as more exotic locations. The other is to take a basic course in warm waters on holiday, usually with the Professional Association of Diving

Instructors (PADI). The PADI standard full-time, fiveday course was designed, originally by Americans, to be fun - and unsurprisingly PADI now trains more divers than all the other diving associations put together. While BSAC now has a similar five-day course, Padi established a global lead which

has been hard to challenge. So, when we were faced with a

allocated to late Easter skiing in the Alps, but wanted to learn a new craft, we chose PADI. The "we" in this instance were myself and my wife plus, to our surprise, our 21- and 19year-old daughters (as with skiing, the prospect of a free and interesting boliday overcomes any latent irritation at the prospect of holidaying with fiftysomething parents).
On the advice of an experienced

diver, we chose the Red Sea. Enthusizsts may debate whether that or the Maldives, the Caribbean or the Great Barrier Reef offer the best diving in the world. But for the learner, the Red Sea is perfect: clear warm water, an extraordinary abundance of marine life and established training facilities. It also offers, for Britisb-based divers, the nearest coral reefs in the world and - if you stay in the Sharm el Sheikh region of Egypt - it's just a five-hour flight from Gatwick and a 20-minute transfer at the other end. In practical terms (allowing for the sborter transfer and the cheaper cost of accommodation, the Red Sea is as quick to reach and as cheap to

book as the Alps.
And the diving? There are a number of skills that you have to learn, such as clearing a mask underwater and adjusting your buoyancy so that you don't keep bobbing upwards and plunging back down, which are not difficult but do require familiarity with the water. There is also a certain amount of theory that you need to know, like how to calculate the amount of nitrogen the body has absorbed during its time underwater and how long it will take



The Red Sea offers British divers the chance to explore coral reefs relatively close to home

for that to return to normal. Errors can prove very serious.

If this sounds a bit daunting, the PADI course is a brilliantly designed example of structured adult learning; a mixture of videos, classroom teaching, pool training tour "pool" was a coral-rimmed, fencedoff bit of the Red Sea) and openwater dives. I suspect we were particularly well taught. The school the Red Sea Diving College at Na'ama Bay, just north of Sharmi specialised in diver training up to instructor level and we were also lucky with our instructor. Tamer. a thoughtful Egyptian who had exchanged the hassles of computer programming in Cairo for the lifestyle of the Sinai. And the

learning was fun. Compared with five days being shouted at in a skischool, the Padi course was a joy.

The reward? As a newly qualified diver you are limited to 18 metres depth, and the practical time limit for a dive is about an hour, maybe less. But during an bour underwater you can see 50 or more species of fish and coral forms: the smaller multicoloured reef fish nibbling away at the coral, the occasional visit from a giant tuna sashaying in from the deep blue beyond, the grey moray eel poking its nose out from a rock. the blue spotted stingray doing a little floor-show shuffle in the sand and so on. For the novice it is thrilling, educating and humbling.

Finally, one worry and one

pleasant surprise. The worry is the extent to which diving may itself damage the environment. Coral is threatened everywhere. At Sharm, the authorities have worked hard to preserve their reefs and one has to hope that the money from diving will encourage continued efforts at conservation, but the explosive growth

of the urban sprawl must be putting

great pressure on the environment. Decompression rules require that divers do not fly within 24 hours after diving, so we used the spare day to head up the coast to a nature reserve and then into the mountains. So far, the development is contained. to a narrow band on the coast, but the danger that we might kill the things we love is ever-present.

The surprise was to find out just bow nice scuba divers are as a breed: helpful, thoughtful, tolerant of the incompetence of novices - and with none of that brash, showy-offy style of skiers who should know better. Yes, I think we will probably go skiing next year, for it is hard to match the exhilaration of swooping down a mountain. But we will certainly try and grab a few days scuba diving too. Are we hooked? I guess so - it is, after all, wonderful to discover a new excitement.

really quite youthful Hamish McRae paid a total of £4,000 for his holiday, which was booked through Crusader Leisure (0181-744 0474). The package included return flights family of four.



from Gatwick to Sharm-el-Sheikh airport, all transfers, bed and breakfast accommodation at the Marriott Hotel and the open water PADI certification course for a

SHOPPING FORECAST



Divings masks with lenses are now available, including the popular Tusa Liberator (left), which costs £96

IN THE WEEKEND REVIEW PAGE 24

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JUDGING BY the response to the item last week on French Motorail, many of you are waiting to spend a lot of money on car-carrying trains this summer - but Rail Europe, the SNCF offshoot that sells the tickets in Britain, is doing everything possible to frusny blames problems with its computer system for its inability to accept bookings for the peak boliday month of August; perhaps it should also

check its phone system. The recorded announcement when you call Rail Europe (0990 848 848) insists that August reservations for Motorail will be available from Monday, 26 April. When you get through to a buman being, you are told that bookings will not, in fact, open until 3 May. The helpful



Ring Rail Europe

and be prepared for the Housemartins' greatest hits

gentleman to whom I eventually spoke suggested that sending a fax to 0171-803 4850 might be easier.

writes to describe how she

Joanna Mimmack of Exeter

diately by first-class post." The rest of us, meanwhile,

phoning SNCF Paris to book from Lille, but encountered a similar refusal to accept bookings more than two

months in advance." Ms Mimmack then called (0171-317 0919): "We have now booked Motorail to Italy from Cologne in Germany, which is a lot cheaper (£414 return). Calais to Cologne is straightforward oo the motorway. Tickets are forwarded imme-

circumvented what can only

loosely be described as a

"system", "First, I tried

are grimly hanging on the line to Rail Europe, still listening to the Housemartins' greatest hits. Presumably it is someone's idea of a joke that every so often the music comes

around again to the jolly time "Happy Hour". To vary things a little in trains to south Devon and Cornwall in August. At a price.

between attempts to get some sense out of Rail Europe, I have been dialling Great Western telesales. On 0345 000 125 you never, ever get the Housemartins. Instead on successive lowest fare on sale by 150 per ringing followed by the unobtainable tone. (b) the engaged. tone, and (c) someone who tells you that the train company isn't yet taking bookings for trains to Devon and Cornwall in August - despite the most significant astronomical event of a lifetime taking place there. If you want to book a trip in time for the total solar eclipse on 11 August, the best the reservations can suggest is that tickets will go on sale "hopefully within

return from Birmingham to Penzance, for example, the lowest fare around the date of the eclipse is a Supersaver, price at a dazzling £75.50. TWO E-MAILS from the US this

Over at Virgin Trains, you

can at last make bookings on

The company says that it has

week, one silly, one sensible.

"We are so excited," begins a breathless missive from the reservations computer of a cutprice airline, "that you look to Southwest Airlines for low Internet fares. Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond

is not offering any click'n'save Internet specials this week." Rather more exciting was a message from Raphael Soifer,

our control, Southwest Airlines

who describes himself as "a taken steps "to control train" loadings". And what is the best prudish American reader". "I feel compelled to point out way to do that? To increase the a flaw in Anthony Rose's story Long Island's "New England charm", which is fine, excep for the fact that Long Island is not and never has been New . England. We citizens of New England (which comprises Massachusetts, Vermont, New

Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Maine) are fiercely proud of our geo graphic uniqueness. Calling Long Island part of New England is like calling Lincoln the most charming part of Nottinghamshire."



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7 nights at the new Ocean Ladge with daily breakfast, airport transfers and the PADI 5 day Open Water Diver course with all tuition and equipment.

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All things conspire to make our visit to the Italian Lakes a delight especially for lovers of great scenery, villas, gardens. good food, wine and serenity of lakeside scenes themselves. The dramatic setting of these lakes in the southern Alps is complemented by their different character and unique beauty, it is hardly surprising that the British have long held a special affection for the area since there is so much to please the eye, which is probably why a number of rich talented gardeners decided to settle and take advantage of the conditions found there. There will be opportunities enough to explore the results of their labours, resources, and visions and be rewarded at every turn. There are a variety of interesting optional visits both around Como and other lakes such as Lake Maggiore with its interesting islands, villas and gardens.

Flights are from Heathrow to Venice every facilities. Sunday morning using a scheduled seat configured aircraft. We have chosen the

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while the guests at one Bahamian hideaway came for yoga classes, but got distracted by the scuba diving, says Rachel Henry

Cocktails and coral reefs

حكذا من الاجل

old grandmother," said Sue Weant, in ber Scarlett O'Hara accent, as she Sapped across the deck in wetsuit, flippers and air tank. "Ah cain't helieve ah'm doin' this." Standing at a gap in the boat railings, she stepped over the side and vanished into the Caribbean.

Being a natural wimp, I couldn't believe it either as I stood in the sun, knees buckling under the weight of the tank, ready to follow Sue in a free-fall to the water's surface.

"Fix your eyes on the borizon," said Garvin, our Bahamian divemaster, "OK, now step forward." My brain tried to tell my leg to move but the leg wasn't keen. "Go on," said Garvin. "You'll be fine." So I stepped. and after a moment's confusion and noise, the turquoise world below became a place of deep calm and quiet. Except for the sound of breathing. In... out... in... out. We had been warned: if you bold your breath while swimming upwards, the pressure change expands the air, your lungs explode and you die.

I'd bad no intention of diving when I arrived three days earlier at Small Hope Bay Lodge on Andros island, in the Bahamas. I'd booked in for a winter getaway - a week's yoga course - but everyone, including Dolly, the yoga instructor's motherin-law, who is in ber seventies, was snorkelling or diving between classes. It seemed a shame-to miss out.

Sue and I did our safety training one afternoon. Garvin took us out to Goat Cay, a tiny island with a shelving white-sand beach. He was thorough, repeating the procedures until we had them right - bow to breathe underwater, bow to bold our noses and blow to equalise ear pressure, and bow to replace mask and mouthpiece should they get knocked off. Knocked off by what, I wanted to know - barracuda? shark? whale?

On a morning dive, one member of our party, Carol, a paramedic, came across a 30ft (harmless) whale shark. She was shaking when she climbed ack on board. Mark, a race-borse trainer from Kentucky, had a noseto-nose encounter with a curious barracuda. "Man, I beld my knees to my chin and just kept that fish in front of me." he said. "No way was I letting that sucker get round my back."

Diving was a revelation. Like fly-



A dive boat moored off the beach at Small Hope Bay Lodge on the Bahamian island of Andros, by the world's third-largest barrier reef

Rachel Henry

divers can become dangerously over-confident. But the diversasters are vigilant, and in its 39 years, the lodge has never lost anyone through a diving accident. Mike's dives included wrecks, cav-

eros and one called "Over the Wall", where the sea floor drops 6.000ft, I stuck to the pretty coral gardens, forced by blocked sinuses to stay near the surface. Another beginner, Rolly Miller, 12, quickly lost any nervousness. "He saw sbarks, so be was happy," said his mother, Marcia.

Sue swam down to 50ft, but developed ear problems. A week after we left, sbe sent me an e-mail from Kentucky I could almost hear her saying: "It was wonderful. But ah still have half that ocean in mah head."

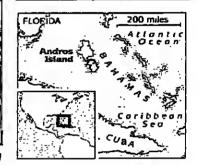
THE LONDON International

DIVE DIARY

Dive Show takes place today and tomorrow at Olympia, Hammersmith Road, London W14 (0171-385 1200 for details). Tickets cost £5 per adult and £2 for children under 14 and are available by credit card from Dive Show Ltd (0181-977

TO LEARN to scuba-dive in the UK, or for a list of dive centres, contact: British Sub Aqua Club (BSAC) on 0151-350 6200 (fax 0151-350 6215, website: www.bsac.com1, or the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (Padi) - on 0117 300 7234 or 01179 710 400, or visit the Padi website (www.padi.com).

THE MINIMUM diving age is 12, but Padi has recently introduced a swimming-pool diving course called "Bubblemakers" for children aged 8 upwards.



Rachel Henry paid £367.40 for a flight from Heathrow to Nassou vio Miami with Virgin (01293 747747) ond Bahamasair, plus \$84 (£52) return via Bahamasair to Andros Town. BA (0345 222111) flies direct to Nassau for £399 if you book this month and travel before 30 June.

A week at Small Hope Boy Lodge 1001 242 368 2013/4; e-mail: SHBinfo@SmallHope.com; website: www. SmallHope.com), costs \$1,120 (£700), full board; dive training is free, and each dive costs \$45/\$55. Diring packages are \$1,510 per week for adults; daily rates ovailable.

Jeff Birch will be on the Small Hope Boy Lodge stand (306E) at the London International Dive Show, at Olympia, today and tomorrow.

the harder I swam, the further away night it was bome to a sweet little it seemed. Finally, I reached the frog who bad swum up round the Uboat's ladder and clung on: safe, but feeling rather silly. My buddy said he pipework is the hot pool, a Jacuzzi set in a sun-deck and sheltered by bad been below me all the time. Back at the lodge it was almost mangroves. Bliss.

as I swam towards the coral floor, a

piercing pain shot through my bead.

I tried bolding my nose and blowing,

but the only relief came by swim-

ming upwards. I looked for my

"buddy" (no one dives alone) and

couldn't see him. Suddenly the

ocean seemed a vast and lonely

place to be. Panicking, I struck out

for the underside of the boat, pitch-

time for cocktails. I wanted a nice lie-

jewel-coloured fisb-butterflies. But palm trees to the row of wooden cab-

ing in the waves some 40ft away. But the loo lurched alarmingly. One

In the lounge, guests can help

ins. One of the truly wonderful things

about Small Hope Bay Lodge is the

beds. They are huge, laden with

pillows, and have perfectly placed

reading lamps. Clean, fluffy towels

are delivered daily and rooms are

spotless, with doors opening on to the

beach. All this more than makes up

for the dodgy plurabing. Power-showers are more power-dribble, and

boat that serves as the bar, and hand out cocktails. Garvin's creations taste like rum-flavoured fruit juice; Skeebo - another divernaster, with an Eddie Murpby grin - pours pure rocket fuel. Platters of melt-in-themouth concb fritters are passed round and half-an-bour or so later everyone files into the dining room. Meals are sociably buffet-based and delicious: pasta Bahamian-style, baked with lashings of butter and cheese, lobster, curries, local fish, salbend. An exception to the eccentric ads-and chocolate fudge cake with everything. This is not a place to diet.

the staff get behind the old cut-in-half

Jeff Birch owns and runs Small Hope Bay on lines set down by his late father. Dick, who founded the ing over a glorious garden with down first, so I wandered through the themselves to drinks, but at 6.30pm lodge in 1960. Dick Birch also pio- at these levels, where inexperienced

a decorator from Columbus. Ohio, and a fellow yoga trainee - find water to be their natural element. Mike trained on Sunday and by Friday was 185ft down; a depth which brought a sharp intake of breath from diving instructors I spoke to in Britain. There's a risk of nitrogen narcosis

neered the resort diving course.

"Anybody can dive," Jeff says. "It's

just a matter of sharing information

erdale or Miami, Small Hope Bay lies

off the world's third-largest barrier

reef, and is popular with experienced

divers. Americans pop down for the

weekend, even for just 24 bours.

Some novice divers, such as Mike -

An hour's flight from Fort Laud-

in a safe, uncomplicated way."

Freeble of the week

Free travel for culture-lovers Visitors to the English and Scottish capitals can benefit from free bus links to two arts venues. In Edinburgh, visitors to the newly opened Dean Gallery - opposite the Gallery of Modern Art - can get there on a new free bus. It runs every hour from the Portrait Gallery and National Gallery in the city centre. The service is sponsored by the car company BMW, and runs every hour between 10am and 4pm (2pmpm on Sundays).

VENICE

SOMETHING TO DECLARE

NEWS FROM THE TRAVEL WORLD

Sadler's Wells in London qualify for free travel on the 19. 38, 73 or 341 buses, from places such as Chelsea, Victoria and Piccadilly. The buses stop right outside the opera and dance venue. If you present your theatre ticket and outward bus ticket at the Box Office, you will be given the casb for both outward and return journeys. All travellers, cultured or

Ticket-holders for shows at not, can benefit from a free ride on Britain's most expensive railway. The Heathrow Express operates free of charge between Terminal Four and the central part of the airport, serving Terminals One, Two and Three. The ride to or from Paddington station in London costs £10, but under-16s travel free with adults so long as the grown-ups have bought their

tickets in advance.

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Plans are being drawn up to limit disruptions for holiday makers bound for destinations, such as Italy. Greece and Turkey, which could be affected by the war on Serbia. With no sign of an early end to Nato action, charter airlines are seeking to minimise delays when the main summer season begins next Saturday.

Russell Ison, from Britannia. said that due to re-routing there may be an extra 10 or 15 minutes added on to journey times, but said departure times from the United Kingdom would be affected.

"At the moment there is a small amount of extra time on flights to Greece. Turkey and Cyprus."

The airline, Flying Colours. said its captains may be asked to fly faster to cut delays.

"Flights into Turkey are heing delayed by up to 30 minutes, so we are working on flying at increased speeds," the airline said. "It does not seem to have affected Greece."

Air 2000 are also expecting minimal delays of 10 or 20 minutes for flights destined for eastern Mediterranean resorts in Greece, Turkey, and Cyprus, along with destinations such as Israel, and Egypt.

"We are monitoring the situation on a daily basis and will do anything we can to make

sure customers are not delayed," said Air 2000.

In addition to the crisis in Kosovo, the threat of terrorist activity in Turkey is still an issue. Britain's biggest holiday company, Thomson, said that the reduction of customers wanting to travel to Turkey due to recent political threats has been small. "It has affected consumer confidence but the Foreign Office advice is that it is safe to go and customers are reassured when they call in."

There has also been concern that low booking levels for May and June could lead to flights being consolidated, but the leading charter airlines say they bave oo plans to cancel or combine departures.

Bargain of the week: the

secret Coribbean, in style To celebrate its 25th anniversary of flights from Heathrow to the Caribbean, Trinidadbased BWIA (0181-577 1100) bas come up with a deal where one person pays the business-class fare, while the other travels for £25. This provides a

cut-price route to two verdant and unspoilt destinations, Dominica and Guyana. For a business-class return ticket to Dominica, each passenger would pay £1,126; to Georgetown, Guyana, £1,314 each. A similar deal applies in

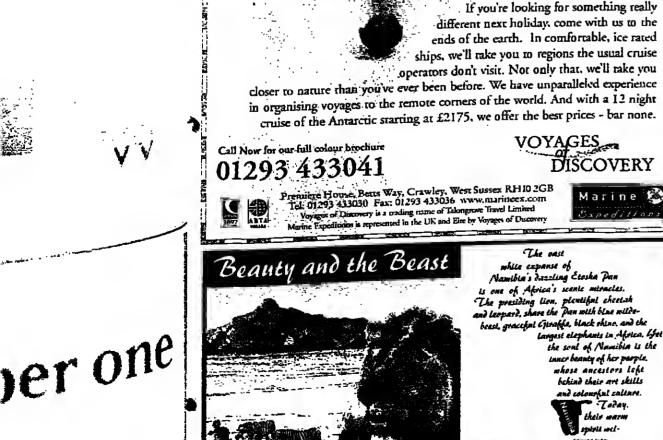
economy class on flights to Antigua, Barbados, Grenada, St Lucis and Tobago; each passenger pays just £309 return. You must book by next Friday. LOUISE PARRATT



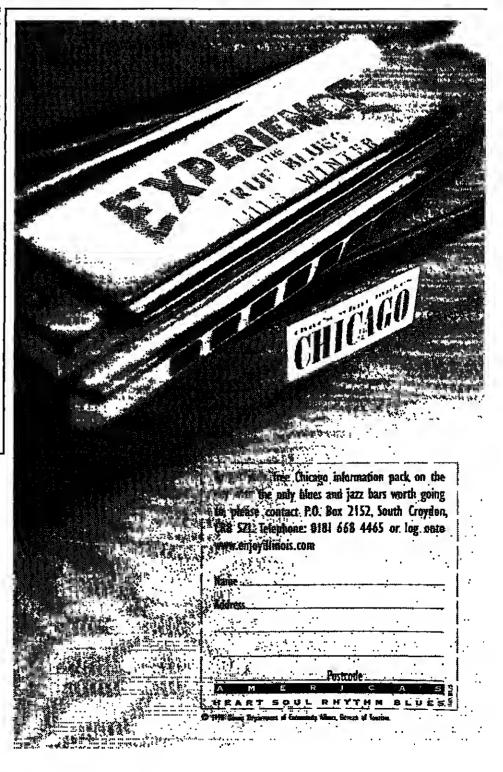
JASPER REES

'I'd better put that funny voice on,' said the woman whose strangulated vowels and battered consonants have launched a thousand impersonations

IN THE WEEKEND REVIEW







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Four hundred years after the birth of Oliver Cromwell, Donald Hiscock explores his old Cambridgeshire stomping grounds

The anti-hero of Huntingdon

brugh he is captured in a million huliday spaps every year for no reason beynnd the fact that his statue stands outside the Hnuses nf Parliament, Oliver Cromwell doesn't have much in the way of tourism devoted to him. But tomorrow is the 400th anniversary of his birth, and all that could change.

Being responsible for bumping off Charles I and creating



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a commonwealth - and thereby hecoming the only commoner to be head of the British state - doesn't gain you much respect in a country that is heavy on royalist history. Nor is he fondly remembered to Scotland and Ireland, countries he brutally suppressed. But the Cambridgeshire towns connected with Cromwell are doing their best to raise awareness of the man wbo was Lord Protector of England for five years, and who cast a long sbadow over the course of British history.

The three Fenland towns that claim the closest Cromwell association are Huntingdon, St Ives and Ely. All are close together and all are connected by the slow-moving River Ouse. powell's birthplace, Huntgdon, is famous for being the constituency of another, present-day parliamentarian, John Major, it is at one end of the High Street (at the heart of the town's linear layout) that Cromwell was born on 25 April 1599. A mid-19th-century house Cromwell Museum. Amongst

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A few days exploring the Cromwell triangle will reveal sleepy villages and flat, open landscapes as well as a long-standing history

No one knows bow they celebrated the start of the 1600s in Huntingdon, but there are a few taverns still surviving from those years. One of them, the Falcon Inn nn Market Hill, was where Cromwell made his Civil War headquarters later in life. at the height of his powers. Just across the street is the old grammar school where Cromwell was educated. The building, which had once been part of the 12th-century Hospital of St John, now houses the

stands on the site these days.

the compact series of displays bere you can piece together the story of a man wbo was born into the gentry, and became a landowner before getting a taste for national politics, military action and nothriety.

His felt hat and gaiters rest on one display, while the other bits and pieces oo view may well have belonged to the great man. The death mask definitely fits the likeness of the portraits that hang on the walls. My sons and I tried to imagine what he would have looked like in the flesh, but we couldn't get be-

yond the hat. It was some hat; you would bave bumped into the brim long before shaking its wearer by the hand. For Cromwell's tercente-

nary in 1899 the people of Huntingdoo were not prepared to celebrate their famous son by having his statue erected in the town. Neighbouring St Ives, further down the Ouse, put up a statue instead. An unassuming-looking Cromwell, dressed in civilian clothes, stands in the market-place there today, commemorating the six years he spent as a St Ives citizen in the

waitress' offer of the key to the chapel and got a brief slice of the life of the solitary priest who lived bere long ago. He must have been tough, we thought, since the place was uncomfortably cold and damp.

1630s. The town has an attrac-

tive, solid 15th-century stone

bridge by its quayside; on the

bridge is a tiny chapel that

opens out on to a precarinus

balcopy over the Ouse. After a

filling hreakfast at Connie's

Tea Rooms we accepted the

The Norris Museum is fur-

houses another small but inhave-owned-this-maybe apteresting collection of exhibits, proach. Indeed, the museum this time of general local hisdoesn't have a single piece of tory. There's nnt too much to Cromwell memorabilia For more on Cromwell, head take in so there's no risk of north-east to Ely. The town's aching feet, and the children striking cathedral, which was aren't forever dragging you once closed down by the Lord into the next room.

Protector for 17 years, can be

seen for miles across the flat

fens, but our time was spent

tracking down signs of

Cromwell The Tourist Infor-

matioo Office is located in the

bome in which Cromwell lived

In fact, there are only two rooms. I enjoyed the fen-skating exhibits and the boys liked the spade that had broken in two while turning the first sod in the construction of the town's by-pass. There's a sense of humour about this place, and ther up the river. The huilding none of the Cromwell-might-

The audin-visual tour through the various rooms reveals that, although famously a Puritan, Cromwell led a far from dull life. He was fond of music, drink and bunting, and his table was well laid nut with good food - eels, fish and waterfowl included.

from which he rose to prominence as a tax collector.

If the supposedly haunted room showing a model of Cromwell on his deathbed (a recreation of an event that, in real life, occurred in Whitehall) was too scary for the children to ening then the Civil War room was a bit. Here you can try on costumes from Cromwell's time. Heavy soldiers' helmets, tunics and dresses are available for a hit of historical crossdressing and there is even a full-length mirror for posing.

A few days exploring the Cromwell triangle will reveal sleepy villages, flat, open landscapes and a sense of history stretching back to well before Cromwell's time. The past is out there, buried under the peat in this corner of Cambridgeshire. Oliver Cromwell's past is there too, but, as a nation. I don't think we really know how to celebrate him. Happy hirthday, Oliver, anyway.

A 17th-century street-market takes place from 10am to 4pm tomorrow in Huntingdon (details, 01480 388249). The Cromwell Museum is at Old Grammar School Walk, Huntingdon, and entrance is free (01480 375830 for opening hours). The Norris Museum is also free and is at The Broadway, St Ives (01480 465101 for opening hours). Oliver Cromwell's House is at 29 St Mary's Street, Ely (01353 662062) and is open daily between 10am and 5.30pm. Adults £2.50, concessions £2.10, family ticket £5. An ecumenical service to commemorate Huntingdon's famous son will take place tomorrow in Hinchingbrooke House, which once belonged to the Cromwell family. For details of all further events, visit the Cromwell 400th anniverwith his family from 1636 to sary website: 1647. This was also the place www.cromwell.nrgonet.co.uk





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Get that Friday feeling

Iran is once again opening up to visitors - including Philippa Goodrich, who spends the Islamic day of leisure finding a cyber-cafe amid the carpets, and Marion Bull, who searches for signs of the poet Omar Khayyam

more than a week before I went out on my own. When I did, within minutes I was surrounded by a buge crowd of men and I found myself fielding questions that ranged from the standard "What do you think of the position of women in Iran?", to the unans-werable (by me, at least) "How do you think we should improve our economy?" and finally, "What do you think of Michael Owen?".

I walked away feeling relieved that I had actually watched the England-Argentina match and seen that goal, when another man came running up behind me. "Tell me," he said, "was Princess Diana murdered or was it an accident?" By then I had been in the country long enough to know that it is best to answer all but the most innocuous questions as neutrally as possible. Iran under President Khatami is beginning to open up again, but it is still wise not to be too free with your opinions in public.

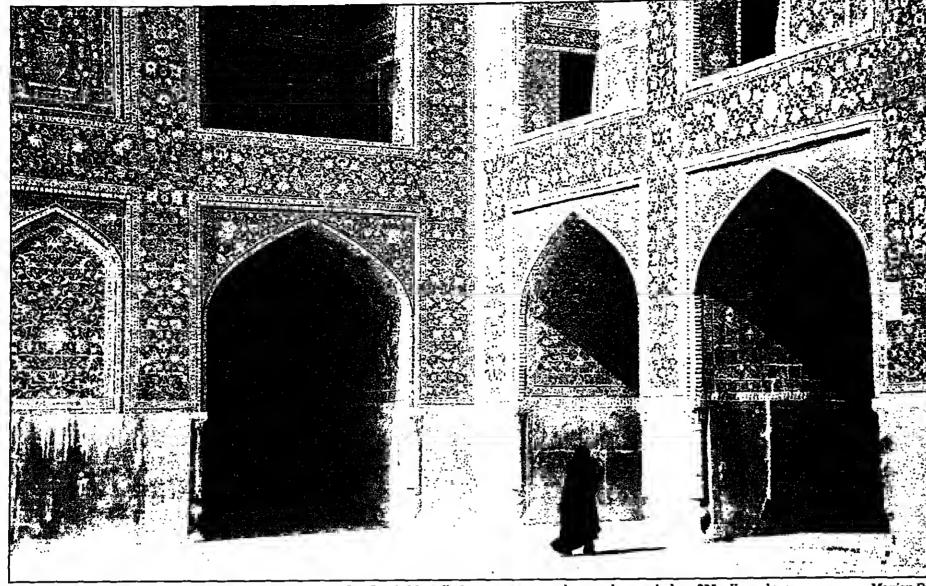
Despite a certain wariness. Iranians are extremely hospitable people and are anxious to see that you have a good time in their country. We had an interesting rather than a wild time in Tehran. I was hoping for a city full of the mysteries of the East, but one look at the hideous Azadi (Freedom) Monument, the first landmark you see after coming out of the airport, put paid to any such notions. In fact, Tehran is a modern, sprawling place which, as we soon discovered. divides physically and socially into the yuppie north and the poorer, more conservative, south.

Most of the city's street trade goes on in the south, and a lot of that happens in the bazzar. I was determined not to go home without a Persian carpet, and we weren't disappointed. It was definitely one of the noisiest and liveliest parts of this soher city: a maze of covered. crowded alleyways where you can huy a range of goods including pistachio nuts, pans and carpets.

Our driver had promised to take us to his friend's shop, so we hurried through most of the carpet bazaar until we reached Mr Keshavarz's emporium, tucked beneath the main thoroughfare. His stock was heaped against all four walls; it had come from the deserts of Baluchistan in the east, and from the mountains around Tabriz in the north west of the country. I was just about to launch into a haggling session for a small Bokhara rug when Mr Keshavarz announced grandly that his prices were fixed; the economy is in the doldrums and carpets are an important source of foreign currency.

Northern Tehran lies in the shadow of the Alborz mountains, although you can see their high, bare ridges only on a clear day. Social codes in this part of town aren't quite as strictly observed as they once were, and pizzerias and cafes where boys and girls can meet each other are beginning to spring up.

We spent a good deal of time in Tehran's first cyber-café, which opened a few months ago. The Internet connection was quick, the



Social codes aren't as strictly observed as they once were but Iran's blue-tiled mosques are an impressive reminder of Muslim values

proprietor, the English-speaking Mr was a country where enjoying were. But even here, the mullahs' cappuccinos made a welcome tea that we were offered everywhere else.

The main road leads easily out of northern Tehran to the mountains and the Caspian Sea that lies beyond. We made our expedition on a Friday; and as we drove through the outskirts and into the countryside, the roadsides were crowded with families out for the day eating picnics, their flasks of tea steaming amid the remains of a late snowfall. Having got the impression that this minute drive, that's where they all

Chizre, was friendly, and the yourself is frowned upon, it was a relief to see the children running change from the sweet, weak black around and chucking snowhalls at each other.

Surprisingly, although Iran is a clerical society, it doesn't seem to be full of people hursting with religious fervour. Our driver reckoned that among the 12 million people in Tehran, only one in six was a regular Friday mosque-goer. The much more appealing alternative for Tehran's younger, well-off crowd is the ski slopes. When we arrived at the resort of Shemshak after a 90-

word is law: there are two queues for the ski-lift with boys to the right and girls to the left, and strictly no fraternisation - not on the lower slopes, at least.

If the city life of Tehran becomes oppressive, it is easy to take a plane to somewhere else in the country. We chose Isfahan because, as Iranians are fond of saying. "Isfahan nesf-e jahan": "Isfahan is half the world". Once you are there, you can imagine how in its 17th-century heyday it must have felt exactly like that. The city's most famous architectural sight, the beautiful, hlue-tiled

mosque of Masjed e Shah. reflects the confidence in his city of its founder, Shah Abbas I.

The mosque is open every day. except on Friday mornings when the area is best avoided, as there has heen some factional fighting at Friday prayers in the past few months. It stands in an impressive setting, on one of the largest squares in the world, Nagsh-e Jahan, also known as Emam Khomeini Square. There's a lot to see around the square and it's lined with souvenir shops, though not many of them seemed to sell anything worth spending our money on.

The other great attraction of Isfahan lies in the famous old hridges over the river Zayande. They've been a feature of the city for hundreds of years, and these days seem to be the place for Isfahanis to meet and talk and enjoy Friday, their day of leisure.

On the walkway under the Khaju bridge, young men were singing traditional songs, the notes rolling from arch to arch along the length of the hridge. Meanwhile, the clientele in the tea-house at the end of the terrace was indulging in another favourite pastime - smoking

The sound of the water bubbling furiously in the bottom of the pipe, tobacco, rose even above the clash of pots and pans and chatter We were given the best seats in the house, with a fantastic view right across the river, and we settled down with our hookah to order

some tea and sugary biscuits. Isfahan is a good place for relaxing. The questions asked here are easier, too. One student we met managed to slip in a quick, "Why does Britain always support dictators?" But, apart from this, the most taxing query came from Mehrdad, the owner of the Shahrzad restaurant where we stopped for lunch. Would we like lamb cooked in the traditional way, or would we like the dish of the day, chicken?



Getting there: Philippa Goodrich paid £455 for a return flight from London to Tehran with British Airways

(0345 222111). BA flies on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays from Heathrow to Tehran; Iran Air (0171-409 0971) flies the route on the same days. plus Saturdays, Marion Bull paid £380 for a return flight with Iran Air, which at present offers a free side trip (eg to Mashhad). Organised tours: Caravanserai

Tours 0181-691 2523 and Jasmin

Tours (0181-675 8886) are among the few companies that offer arrangements in Iran. Red tape: Procuring a visa for

independent travel is tricky. First, contact the Visa Section of the Consular Department of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at 50 Kensington Court, London WS 5DD (0171-795 4922; calls taken hetween 2pm and 4pm). On an organised tour, visa requirements will be taken care of by the operator.

Accommodation: Philippa Goodrich paid £53 per night for a

suite, including a kitchen in the Ramtin Hotel in Tehran, and £75 per night for a room at the Laleh International, one of the city's five-star hotels. In Isfahan a room in the Abbasi Hotel, an old caravanserai, costs £75 per night. Women travellers: Female visitors to Iran are expected to adhere strictly to Iranian cultural norms of dress and behaviour. All parts of the body, except for the hands, feet and face, must be covered when in

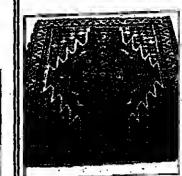


be loose fitting.

public, and outer clothing should



THE SHOPPING FORECAST



Journey to the source No. 12: Persian carpets Traditionally bought as luxury items and used as investments to be sold off in times of need, Persian carpets are possibly Iran's most famous export - and understandably so. Since carpets have been produced here for over 2.500 years, the Iranians know a thing or two about making them.

The provenance and design of each carpet is crucial Each region produces characteristic carpets and symbolic patterns - such as lamps to indicate the sacred lamp in Mecca or dogs to ward off evil spirits - are often woven into the wool, cotton or silk. If you want the real thing, huying a good quality carpet in modernday Iran is not as straightforward as it should be; since - due to high demand, cheaper production costs and competition from India and Turkey - many of the carpets are mass-produced by factory machines rather than woven in the traditional way by nomadic weavers and small village workshops. So, choose carefully.

According to the Lonely Planet Guide to Iran (£11,99), buying in an Iranian bazaer can be a real gamble and it's worth reading up before you go. You also need to take into account the fact that you will probably have to pay to get your carpets home certainly if they take up more space than 12 square metres in total.

If you don't have the patience to seek out the country's small weaving centres, there are plenty of opportunities in Tehran. The Grand Persian Carpet **Exhibition and Carpet** Conference takes place in the capital each August and is a good place to huy or browse. If you can't afford the carpets here. admire them from afar at the city's famous but fairly small Carpet Museum in Lale Park, off Kargar Street. Alternatively, haggle your way with care through the carpetsellers along Ferdosi Street in Tehran Bazaar, Philippa Goodrich recently paid \$300 (£190) for a good quality 3ft x 4ft carpet If you bought a similarly-

sized handwoven carpet back in the UK at Mansour (56 South Audley Street, London, W1, 0171-499 5602), you could expect to pay upwards of £500 so, buy in Tehran and use the £310 you save to put towards a £380 return flight from London to Tehran with Iran Air (0171-409 0971). That way, you can use the free internal flight that comes with this ticket to go carpet-hunting further

Gadget of the Week: Many people who need to wear glasses are put off diving because of the frustrations of wearing contact lenses underwater or by going without altogether and suffering blurry vision.



If you're prepared to pay, however, you could revolutionise your diving with a prescription lens mask Ocean Leisure (0171-930 5050) has a range of prescription diving masks that start at around £72 (including the popular Tusa Liberator, pictured, that costs £96 with prescription lenses) and most can be fitted while

RHIANNON BATTEN

Wooed with a pot of tea in the desert

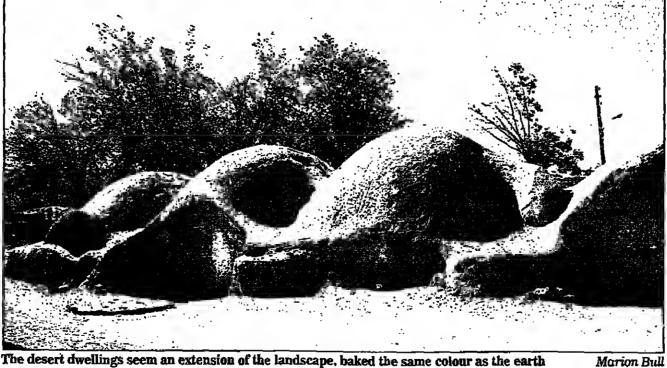
IN A cubicle made of hlack theatrecurtaining, a pair of hands wander over my breasts. They stop at a bit of bra underwiring, and follow the shape round in concern, as though I were hiding a miniature scythe.

1 stand submissively, arms outstretched. draped from head to toe in the full chador without which no woman is allowed into the Holy Shrine of the Imam Reza, in Mashhad. I hold the borrowed chador around me with my teeth, disappointed that it has a tea stain down the front. The female security guards let me through the curtain to a dazzling white courtyard, from where I enter the turquoise maze of endless other courtyards, built over centuries, a mixture of gaudy beauty and calm. For some reason I burst into tears. A man offers me a fig biscuit, and I follow the pilgrims through to a mirrored hall.

I had flown to Mashhad from Tehran to visit the little town of Neishabour, an hour's drive away, birthplace and resting-place of a childhood idol: Omar Khayyam. It was Edward Fitzgerald's translation of the Rubáiyát that captured the imagination of Victorian England; in Persia, Omar - inventor of calendars, hinter at a spherical world as early as the 12th century - had always been celebrated more for his genius in maths and astronomy than for his antiestablishment poetry. It was nevertheless copied by others in Persia, who in turn became famous.

The guidebooks warned of an uninteresting town and monument over Omar's tomb, neither of which I found to be true. Neishabour's unpretentious low buildings in a quiet setting, against the snowcovered Alborz mountain range, were refreshing after so much city pollution. Its wispy green hirch trees and gardens were

The monument is a remarkable piece of sculpture or even architecture, somewhere stead a pottery museum. Housed in a for-



The desert dwellings seem an extension of the landscape, baked the same colour as the earth

tended to be symbolic of: "this inverted Bowl we call the Sky". My only disappointment was that the tomb should stand bleakly on concrete, because Omar was so specific that it should be on grass. Apparently it was moved to this garden from its original burial-place in another part of town, and I wondered what Omar would have thought

about people being charged to go in and look. Living out a fantasy, I searched for an old potter's shop like the one in the Rubaiyat's Kuza Nama, the "Book of Pots"; I found in-

between a stone jellyfish and what it was inellers and horses in the centre of town, it displayed pots that were already 1,000 years old when Omar was alive.

The centre-piece of the museum is a model of Neishabour in the 15th century. The originals of the low, hump-hacked mud structures, courtyards and covered alleyways it depicts are still standing in the surrounding desert - indeed throughout Iran - many of them still inhabited and looking, from a distance, like low-lying rocky outcrops, an extension of a flat landscape, baked the same colour as the earth.

I was glad I had made this trip. Outside Neishabour, in rusty green hills, I saw the little village of Darroud, with its tumbling spring on various levels and new shoots of spring greenery everywhere. This small corner was worth a hundred trips around better-known desert towns.

Travelling alone, I saw little of Iranian life. If this had been south-east Turkey or Kurdistan I would undoubtedly have been invited to someone's house for tea. But that is not done here, and I was simply watched with curiosity from a distance. I was not taken for a spy, as some had suggested I would be,

at hotel receptions, and to be expected to stand in the background when a man was in front. But the guide who showed me into Mashhad's mosque complex prior to seeing Neishabour "Your hair!" when the chador slipped), also took me to see the Hezardastan restaurant for lunch, on the outskirts of Mashhad, a place I could not have found, or even entered, on my own. The dining-area was in a dimly lit, windowless basement: when my eyes adjusted to the light I could see that it was full of beds. A couple languished on cushions, absorbed in each other. Three men sat up in bed eating redspotted rice in a corner and a young boy played a string instrument by the central fountain, oblivious to us all.

nor was I in the least offended to be ignored

Nothing is what it seems. These were not beds, but antique, carpet-covered seats. The dessert we were served with a pot of tea was not a dessert at all, but the first course of a meal of leg of lamb and soup. I said yes when the guide asked me if I was married. I had been told to say I was a housewife, since I was travelling alone. He looked both relieved and disappointed. Omar would have been dismayed that there was oo wine to help this scene along, but it was the most sensuous cup of tea I have ever had.

Indeed, nothing is what it seems in Iran. The breast-feeling business by female security guards happened about 10 times, with the departure from Tehran to London being the most fraught. They wore surgical gloves. It was 5am. I was screaming maniacally that

my passport had just been stolen. Re-emerging on the seething-crowd side of the black curtain, I saw my passport being shunted over people's heads. Someone had picked it up after I had dropped it in the rush, and was politely attempting to hand it back. It couldn't have been a more appropriate departing metaphor for this illunderstood country.

احكدا من الموصل



48 hours ... in Granada

Fly to Granada and celebrate the Day of the Cross with singing, dancing and drinking. By Rick Williams

Demure dinner

The Mirador de Morayma (3)

(Pianista Carrillo 2, 00 34 958 22

82 90) is a beautiful old carmen in

the Albaicin looking across to the

Alhambra which, lit up at night, is

even more magical. It is also one

and serves recipes from the local

area. Try the Tortilla Sacromonte,

which dates back to the years of

and is made from pig's testicles

Icing on the cake

and brains. It's very tasty. Honest.

"Give him alms woman as there is

no greater sorrow in life than to

hunger under Franco in the Fifties,

of the best restaurants in Granada

Why go now? Apart from the cobalt blue skies, temperatures in the high twenties and picturesque peaks of the nearby Sierra Nevada mountain range, the fiesta of the Day of the Cross takes place on 3 May. Religious in origin, the festival has developed into a two-day hedonistic celebration of singing, dancing and drinking silly amounts of fino sherry. Children, households and local organisations erect crosses throughout the city, and each site traditionally includes a halfsmoked clgar, a chair, a glass of fino and a scissor-spiked apple. Most spectacular of all are the

thousands of women dressed in

brightly coloured dresses who

throughout the day and night.

dance swirling sevillanas

Take a hike

The old Arab quarter of the Albaicín sits on

appealing maze of cobbled alleys, delightful

with walled gardens), it was once home to

a mixed community of Christians, Jews and

hundreds of years until 1492, when isabel

and Ferdinand, the Catholic monarchs who

are buried in the Royal Chapel adjoining the

city's cathedral, expelled Jews from Spain

and persecuted Muslims. Many Muslim?

architectural features, such as fountains

Abba revivalist days, you may wish to

revelation that, in Spanish, Ferdinand

and gateways, remain. (Incidentally, in these

impress your travelling companion with the

a steep hillside facing the Alhambra and

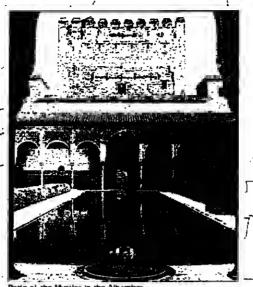
plazas and whitewashed cormens (villas

Muslims. They happily co-existed for

dates back to the 11th century. An

Beam down The cheapest way is to fly to Málaga, one of the most competitive destinations in Europe from Britain. Shop around for the lowest fares and most convenient departure airports. For scheduled flights from Gatwick or Heathrow, try British Airways (0345 222111); from Heathrow only, Iberla (0171-830 0011); from Stansted, Go (0845 60 54321); from Luton, Monarch (01582 398333); from East Midlands, British Midland (0870 240 7036); and from Liverpool, easyJet (0870 6 000 000). The best fare we have found is £120 on Go. There are also dozens of charters from all

From Malaga airport, take the train into the city of Malaga. From there, Granada is two and a half hours away by road. Buses leave every hour from the station on Paseo de los Tilos, around £10 return. Car hire, best booked in advance from Britain, is about



See in the dawn After an evening of tapas and drinks, hunt down the flamenco cave bars in the ALBAICIN

be blind in Granada." This appeal for clemency, inscribed on one of

the walls of the Alhambra, is as true today as it ever was. The palace, with its backdrop of icingsugar-topped mountains, makes for one of the most beautiful views in the world. And the best place to see it is from the Mirador de San Nicolás () at sunset. If you're lucky, the mountains will turn pink and you'll be left humbled by an exquisite marriage of man and nature.



SACROMONTE

Take a ride

Lunch on the run

people-watch.

Alhambra Palace.

Get your bearings

Eat where the locals eat with a trip to the

the Albaicín. Basking in the southern

plaza of San Miguel Bajo (at the top of

sunshine, the four restaurants here vie with

lunches and plenty of opportunity to sit and

Granada is a fairly compact place. If you

arrive from Málaga at the bus station on the

Carretera de Jaen – in the modern suburbs –

Nueva 1 at the beginning of the River Darro

valley. On one hillside is the Albalcin, the old

Arab quarter of cobbled alleys and

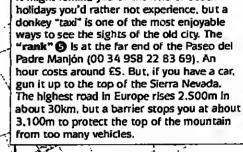
whitewashed carmens, on the other, the

take a 10-minute taxi journey up to Plaza

each other, offering leisurely Spanish-style

Sacromonte valley. It can be a bit touristy. but It is worth the effort. Best of all is El Nino dei Almendra (1) on the Calle del Mulada: de Dona Sancha near San Miguel Bajo. It's a tiny, semi-private flamenco club for locals. Knock on the door and smile and you'll get to see some superlative guitar playing and dancing.

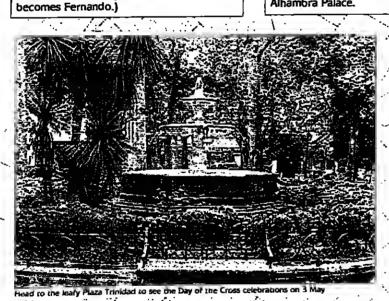
Cultural afternoon Busy it might be, but you really shouldn't miss the Alhambra, 7 open every day from 8.30am to 8pm, and costing about £S to visit. From the outside, its burnished red walls aren't much to look at, but they reflect the symbolic importance of the "inner" for Its Muslim architects. Within are exquisite patios and courtyards, decorated with arabesques and linked by an ngenious system of waterways. Equally impressive are the adjoining Generalife gardens and the Winter Palace, a mass of verdant vegetation.



It might remind you of the kind of beach

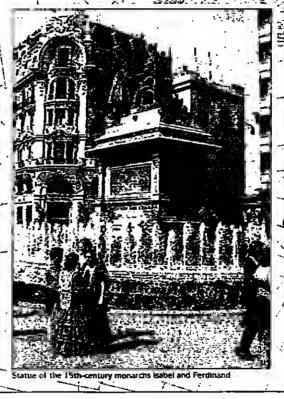
GENERALIFE

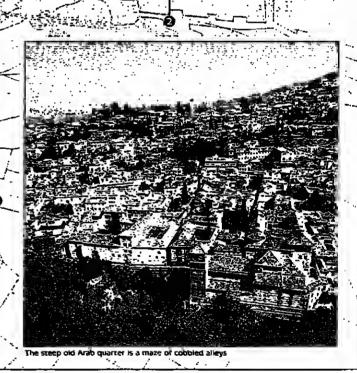
Check in For luxury and a setting without equal, the Parador Nacional San Francisco (Real de la Alhambra, 00 34 958 22 14 6), actually in the grounds of the Alhambra, is unbeatable, although the Alhambra Palace (Pena Partida 2, 00 34 958 22 14 68) Is flashier. There are plenty of good-value pensiones around Plaza Nueva and Cuesta de Gomerez, but for something a little more offbeat, try the luxurious cave accommodation in the old gypsy quarter of Sacromonte: Cuevas el Abanico (3) (00 34 958 22 61 99). If you don't speak Spanish, book through the Internet: granadainfo.com/abanico/english.htm



An aperitif

If you fancy a tipple, there are two distinct options. The Caldereria Nueva off Plaza Nueva is a cobbled alleyway, lined with Moorish tea shops, which captures perfectly the fusion of Western and Muslim culture that so characterises Granada. Alfaguara and Dar Ziryab are particularly good. Alternatively, you could bar-hop around the city, drinking and eating tapas. Unlike most of Spain, the tapas are still free in Granada. Try Bodegas Castaneda ② on Calle Almireceros and Casa Julio (1) on





GLOBAL AGENDA

Brescia and Bergamo The Brescia and Bergamo Piano Festival was created in 1964 as a tribute to the pianist Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli, who was born in Brescia. Uniting the strong musical traditions of these two towns, the festival encourages its invited artists to collaborate and experiment in their interpretation of the programme, which is built around a different author, historical event or musical form each year. Tomorrow's opening concert, "Il Pianoforte di Schumann", performed by the Orchestra Filarmonica della Scala and conducted by Myung-Whun Chung with Stanislav Bunin on piano, will celebrate the festival's 35th anniversary. Ivo Pogorelich, Andras Schiff and Gerhard Oppitz will also perform during the festival. Various venues, Brescia (00 39 030 44569) and Bergamo (00 39 035 240140), Italy; from tomorrow until 11 June, L35,000-L150,000

Amsterdam The whole of The Netherlands will be celebrating Queen Beatrix's birthday on Friday, but the annual festivities in Amsterdam will take some beating, with thousands of people pouring into the city to



Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse' by Dürer

join in the fun. From early morning, when the first flea markets start, until well into the night, when block parties are in full swing, the canals are packed with partygoer-laden boats and concert halls are throbbing with music, madness and mayhem. Various locations throughout Amsterdam, The Netherlands; Friday, free

Marseilles The International Festival of Contemporary Music is much more than its name suggests. As well as offering a programme of modern sounds - provided by

an international line-up - it

features exhibitions of contemporary art, dance performances, film screenings and conferences, and takes place in some fascinating indoor and outdoor venues. This year the focus is on percussion, and will feature music by the Italian composer Salvatore Sciarrino and the Greek musical theatre specialist Georges Aperghis. Also planned for the festival is a masterclass in orchestral direction with Lorraine Vaillancourt and the New Modern Ensemble of Montreal. Various venues, Marseilles, France (00 33 49139 2900); from Friday until 12 May. Ff40-Ff70

Basel An exhibition of the early works of well-known artists, "When Artists Were Young", gives a fascinating insight into the development of their styles. The featured artists date from Albrecht Dürer right up to Jackson Pollock and Donald Judd, and the chronological tracing of their work reveals how their initial stabs at creativity are often different to the paintings and sculptures for which they became famous. Basel Kunstmuseum, 16 St Alban-Graben, Basel, Switzerland (00 41 61 206 6262); until 21 June. SF7

SHARON GETHINGS

denly feels quite cosy.

The Clareoce manages that tricky combination, calm and cool, and it would be impossible to talk about the hotel without mentioning one of its owners,

GEORGIAN

SQUARES, ele-

gant arcades.

quaint winding

lanes: Dublin is

extraordinarily

picturesque.

However, the

Clarence is to-

cated on oone

of the above. In fact, when you

approach it, the hotel looks un-

promising, on a dusty, busy road,

beside an unphotogenic stretch

austere by any standards and,

when you go into reception, the

wood panelling gives things a hoarding-school feel. But ooce

you're checked in, check out the

beautiful design details that the

new owners created in 1996 and

let a warm glow settle over you.

The bedrooms are peaceful

and perfect for a weekend bolt-

hole, but it's in the communal

first Guinness, the Study for a

fireside reading session. The

oddly named Tea Room is a cav-

ernous restaurant, but after the

wine's started flowing and fantas

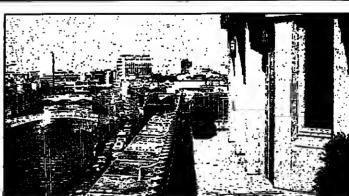
tic huge portions of hearty Irish

food has been consumed, it sud-

rooms that the Clarence shines.

The Octagon Bar is Ideal for that

of the river Liffey. The building is



24-HOUR ROOM SERVICE: THE CLARENCE, DUBLIN

Bono of U2. The Clarence has true rock'n'roll credentials, and the peothouse suite is ideal for recovering superstars, with a piano, a rooftop Jacuzzi, cream suede sofas and an awesome bed. The staff are fantastically discreet so no, they won't tell you everyone famous who's stayed there, but anyone with taste

probably has.

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION The Clarence is at 6-8 Wellington Quay, Dublin 2, Ireland (tel: 00 353 1670 9000, fax: 353 1670 7800) Transport: Dublin is mostly walkable, and the Clarence is well placed for the sights. If you're infirm or can't be bothered to walk, taxis are a better bet than the (very crowded! buses. Time to airport: About 40 minutes, and there are plenty of taxis available.

ARE YOU LYING COMFORTABLY? An haute couture version of a padded cell, the rooms are plain and simple, with cream walls and heavy curtains. The ecclesiastical theme is pushed with deep crimson furnishings and monk'scell-like lights. The sinning's up

in Europe.

Beds: Deep and crisp and even, with lots of fluffy pillows, perfect for lazing in until at least midday. Very unmonastic.

suite is possibly the grooviest

to you. And, the penthouse

Freebies: All the usual luxury unguents in the bathroom, with those cute towelling slippers that surely are meant to be taken home (the idea of recycling them

is too, well, unhygienic). Temperature: As you like, and unlike its New York "design" equivalents, in this hotel you can open the windows (some give on to tiny balconies). Bathroom: The bathroom has his'n'hers basins and a very flattering mirror. Relax in the bath or get blasted by the power-

shower instead. KEEPING IN TOUCH TV: Yes, and it has the full range of channels you never watch at home but suddenly find compelling in a botel (CNN, Discovery..... Radio: Yes, but if you're in the penthouse, a state-of-the-art hi-fi system awaits, with a hip selection of CDs. Phone/fax/Internet: Hey, politicians hold press conferences on the roof. It's safe to say they are well equipped, technowise.

THE BOTTOM LINE A "superior" (ie standard) room is Ir£180 (£151) per night; a twobedroomed suite is Ir£550 (£462). The penthouse suite is Ir£1,450 (£1,218), but a small pop combo could fit in it. Full Irish breakfast is Ir£14 (£12) per person, and you'll be too full to eat for several hours after that. Dinner for two with wine in the Tea Room costs about Ir£60 (£50).

LISA MARKWELL

THE WEEKEND REVIEW

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BLACK MALE

Articulate, conscious and

caring male, 54, is seeking

a temale parmer who has

similar attributes. 26162

Bon't Forget!



TEL: 0171 293 2222

GRADUATE Attractive, slim, blonde, artistic, 5'4", enjoys arts, theatre, eating out, live music, seeks fun-loving easygoing, intelligent, pro-tessional male, 36-45. Could previous callers please call again. 275933 GET IT TOGETHER Oute extroven female, 37, 5'5', enjoys cinema, eat-

ing out, travel and life in general, seeks tall male, 15-45, N/S, who is nice. honest and good fun, tor fnendship and happiness. London, 176415 FEISTY DOCTOR interested in current affairs, travel, outdoor pur-

friendship, possibly more. Gloucestershire area. FOR YOU Petite, divorced, profes-sional female, 54, smoker. with dog and cat, varied interests including music Are you genuine too? As coking to keep company?

Surrey, 276416 **GORGEOUS &** SUCCESSFUL Arty woman. Inc really!).
30-45, for some good laughs. Craydon/London.

NORTH WALES BASED Me: slim, professional blonde, 39. enjoys arts countryside, having fun. seeks you: confident active, intelligent, sponta neous male, 37-45. Call LIVE A LITTLE! Charming, witty, intelligent temate. N/S, full of surprises with a zest for lite with same enthusiasm.

apply N London/Heritord-shire or surrounding areas. 256392 DANCE OF OPTIMISM Come dance with me. I need a witness to my life Attractive, intelligent, black female seeks like-minded ty, to talk to, laugh, share with and understand.

London, 25386 SUCCESSFUL SINGLE If you re an unattached male, 30s, attractive, cre atrya and intelligent, into tion, travel, theatre, then I would like to hear from

CHRISTIAN Confident lemale, 32, Island I. hor-judgemental, socially aware, eclectic interests, enjoys life's sim-ple pleasures, people and conversation, is seeking triendship, with mental and emotional intimacy.

CALLING THE UNIVERSE Quiet smile, sharp mind.

ing e real man, 45-60, tor special magic. London WARMTH & KINDNESS Sought and given by god-dess, also interested in walks, theatre, music, art and laughing in bed. Attractive, professional, 42. London based, though distance not important. 126341 UNFULFILLED

ROMANTIC Peits, green-eyed, sensitive artist, loves country-side, gardening and all things living, looking for passionate friendship.
seeks true soul mate, 40s. with similar interests, to OLDD. 250411

Professional, independent ternale, 43, intelligent, humorous, outgoing, seeks sensitive, thoughtful, adventurous male. West Midlands, \$16224

SIMPLY THE BEST Attractive, bright, vivacious temale, 47, seeks good-looking, solvent, easygoing male, for fun, friend-Yorks area. 126417

Anractive, professiona Hindu female, 28, 5'8". sensitive, caring, romantic, confident and strongwilled, with down-to-earth personality, varied interests, is seeking a caring. reliable, emotionally mature Indian Hindu male, aged 25-38, 5'10"+, lor sible commutment. 全6291

SOMERSET FEMALE Dark-haired, dark-eyed female, 31, seeks charisbright male, who doesn't mind lying about how we met, 125942 LEEDS BASED Professional female 28. likes travel, photography food, wine, beer, flowing

conversation, looking to male with GSOH, who loves life. 256423 NEW VOYAGE Attractive, slim woman, ex-nursing sister, enjoys country life, salling, music, seeking interesting, active, unpretentious, emoborally

male, 50-60, idealty in the East of England, 2:6338 SEEKING SOMEONE SPECIAL Caring, genuine, loving lady, 59, 411°, GSOH. N/S, medium build, enjoys line danaling, swimming. walking, meeting people seeks genuine gentleman, 60-65, for friendship, companionship, possible rela-ionship, 256250

FUN-LOVING EX-MODEL Creative, slim temate, is seeking a fit male, aged 30-40, for romance. Scotland, 176265 SEEKS SOUL MATE Attractive, kvely, fun, intelli-gent, loving female, with many interests, seeks similar man, late 30s-early 40s. for companionship, laughs, and loving, long-term rela-IN SEARCH OF DOBDIN single mother, early 40s.

Petite, vivacious, attractive but gri at heart, well-edu cated read travelled with an insatiable energy and optimism, seeking an hon-ourable gentleman, 40-55, ourable gentleman, 40-55, to share the usual cultural activities and jaunts in the country. London \$6272

Call Now! To respond to any voice Personals' ad call 0897 554 555 ರಿಮೇರ್ ಚಿತ್ರಗ ಹಾಗಾ ಸತೆ ಮಹ

SEEKING SCORPIO Stim Dutch lady, 62, enjoys gardening and life, is seeking a warm, caring and successful gernleman, for a long-lasting relationship. 126286 EUROPEAN CONNECTION

Attractive, slim, independent, professional brunette. te, into the arts, opera, cal music, travel. social science, seeking attractive, successful, gen uine, sensible, professions male, 45-50, for happy relationship, 126276

Single Irish female, travel professional, very down-to-earth, is seeking a tall, dark male, N/S, to enjoy classical music, the great outdoors, and much, much more. #8794 ATTRACTIVE & CLASSY
Very attractive, silm
temala, 49, 5'6", dark hair,
intelligent, interesting,
enjoys good food/wine and male company, is seeking a successful, professional male, aged 47-56, who is strong but gentle. 12:6282 LUST FOR LIFE

ed in the arts, good food and wine, dancing, holidays, seeking attractive, sensitive, kind, intelligent, well-educated, profession man, 45-55, to share inter-London area. 186180 ests. London. 176289

QUIRKY HUMOUR? Vegetanan? Questioning? Keen photographer? Would you like to meet similar, in tall, slimmish, grounded, very young. 40-something female? In East Susser area preferably. \$6155 ADVENTUROUS

FEMALE ligent, good-looking female, brown hair/eye 24, 5'4", tikes horse nding travelling, music, pubs, cin-ema, seeks mele, similar . 5'4" and above, 24-30, for friendship and romance. 2 6056

REALLY MATTER? Attractive, generously pro-portioned women, 40s, with a generous heert to match. ks sensitive, affection ship, possible relationship. Hertordshire, 275999 BROWN-EYED GIRL Sensational, black single mum, student, 5'7", enjoys lashion shows, dancing onemas, shopping, nights in, travelling back to the Canbbean, seeks honest. good-looking, caring, loving guy, 20-33, black/white, for long lasting relationship.

#6165 BEWITCHING WOMAN With style and e wicked smile, seeks warm, witty uise rensecence man. 40-50, expenenced in rescu-ing workaholics and admir ing women who slay their own dragons. Middlesex based, 255992

SOMEONE SPECIAL Canno, genuine, loving lady, 59. 411. GSOn, NS. medium build, enjoys line dancing, swimming, walk-ing, meeting people, seeks genuine gentleman, 60-65, T-6058

HOLDING OUT woman, just back from. Africa, into life's advenlures, still clinging perilous-ly to notion, no need to set tle for less than love. ds tall, happy. confident, witty, ind fiberal thinker to prove her CELTIC DREAMING Fair-skinned, blue-eyed redhead, 36, medium arts, music, literature.

yoga, laughter, seeks like-minded man, 32-40. Herts GREGARIOUS FEMALE... ...31, 5 5°, blonde green, SW London, professional, enjoys cooking, staying in, tennis, holidays, weekends away, seeks male,30-40, tall, professional, intelli-

nt. to make her laugh BELLE IN BELFAST arts, travel, keep-fit, seeks tall, honest, sincere male. for harrow sp. 259 LIVE LIFE TO THE MAX Fun-loving, slightly mad, intelligent, down-to-earth le, 35, 5'9", blande/ green, enjoys shopping.

swimming, squash, seeks male, 35-40, 5'9' and above, with similar inter ests, for triendship at first. **26059** CHRISTIAN LADY Single, 33, N/S, medium build, honest, kind-trearted, loves animals, wildlife, countryside/coast, seeks countrystoe/coast, seeks
Christian gent, 30-45,
friendship, leading to
romance, \$26055
HAPPY OPTIMIST
Creative, independent, fairhaired, blue-eyed, fairly fit
female, 33, into tun,
friends, writing, adventurous travel, the arts, seeks ous travel, the arts, seeks like-minded male, 30-40. London based, \$25997 ATTRACTIVE & SLIM Brown-eyed female, 40, many arts-based interests,

seeks handsome male, 35 45, with GSOH, for friendship/relationship. London Attractive, artistic, outgo-ing, fun-loving, professional lady, silm, blonde, interest-THE SAME OLD SCENE Engaging, warm, vibrent, triendly female, late 30s, quality and deep into personality, interested in cine ma, seeks male, 35-40, for

VEGETARIAN VACANCY Best friend wanted for happy outgoing, profes-sional lady, 50s, Into spingardening, good company, would suit intelligent, sens tive, vegelanan mela. Opportunities for promotion. Suffolk, £6101 DELICIOUS

...with poise and smoulder. seeks one very fabulous. tall, charismatic, success man. 35-45, to work her ide Out with. 226052

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seeking

TAKEN FOR A RIDE?

ger.co-driver, under 50 N/S. Driver, 5'6", unal-

ship, perhaps more.

WHITE LIES

ECCENTRIC

OPTIMISTIC

dnyer, seeks lady passen

tached, really quite nice, wide interests. For Inend-

Cambridge area. 126398

Tall, fit red-haired man, 27,

enjoys outdoors, nature

travel, lood, music, seeks

portant, to share the good

things with, SW England

Pretentious, opinionated man, J. huny, hook nosed, beanpole, with attitude, seeks ravishing, independent, creative god-

dess, to share a bit of life. Solvent, single, sane, Sussex, 156395

d. SWO EJ. 60-13

ting it back logether. N sex/Sufloik. All calls

sımılar female, age unım

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mish, N.S. outgoing, span-taneous romantic, loves

sport cycling, walks, arts, exhibitions, travel and

socialising, seeks creative

relationship Twickenham

Slim, professional Asian

ema. music. gigs, seeks bright, fun-loving temale, for friendship plus. London

Tall, canng male, young 40, classical music jour-

nalist, seeks lively, intelli-

gent girl, 20s, for concerts.

opera, romance, 126218

Tall, dark, good-looking male, 36, GSOH, enjoys music, going out, clubbing, travel, seeks fun-loving.

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Attractive mate, 33, loving. canno, with varied inter-ests, which includes, travel, music, seeks sincere. attractive temale, 20-45. for long-term relationship

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YOUNG AT HEART imelligent, easygoing male, 39 but feels 21, into music, travel, going out, slaying in, is seeking a sımılar female, lor lun. inendship and romance Yorkshire or N England 26342

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conversation films, music

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ikes arts, cinema, theatre, travel, good food, is seek-ing a lady, for relationship and who knows what?

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MARGINALLY

Pretenticus, opinionated

male, 43, beanpole, with amude, seeks revising, independent, meaning god dess, to share a bit of ite

with. Solvent single, same.

SUSSEA. 26223 BRIGHTON/LONDON

Male, with interest in pho-tography, courselling, cul-

tural studies, foreign travels aware of sexual coll-

tios, sensitive but not sub-missive, teli, sim and th.

seeks new temale friend.

Young-locking student coursellor aged 34, 5'3".

ezsygoing, canng. thought ful and humorous, enjoys

films, eating out and relax-

female, to enjoy the with

Newcastle area, \$5237

AFRICAN-AMERICAN

spon, travel, seeks inde-pendent lady, over 25, 10

share lun ames, maybe

Black Interature graduate. N/S, GSOH, loves the arts. travel and good tood, seeks

positive, professional

colour unimportant, with or

without children, for poss

BLACK & GENTLE

more. 25383

Male, St. likes music

HILL OF SEANS

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your love-life a little mouth-to-mouth resuscitation!

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Intelligent male, late 30s, easygoing, GSOH, enjoys staying in, going out, cooking, music, cinema theatre, seeks female, for possible relationship. £6222

STILL SEEKINGthat elusive, music-lov-ing, interesting, kindred spint. Graduate gentleman. 57. seeks lady. under 58, to share life's many pleasures, in a long-term relabonshio, Bostol. 255280

STPI Group 1999

Place your own Voice Personals' ad FREE on 0800 216 351 SOUL MATE SEARCH Tall, attractive, hard-work-ing male. 25, into antiques

and property renovat igent female sections int company, for friendship and relationship. \$6275 DESPERATE Emotionally distorted by

previous relationships. excerise, into reading, sport, cycling, is seeking a libran, aquarian or gemini female, any age, for friend-ship first, then who knows? 256285 DIVORCED MALE, 50

Affectionate, professiona male, seeks temale, any age, to share life with. E5281 UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE Cosmopolitan male, 41, 6'. si.m. fit. Des imellectua challenges and laughter, is seeking a very slim, attractive partner, aged 28-35. who's discerning and ready for edventurous future. South West. 126279

IN THE STARS Two caring, chansmatic, carcenter make, 14-3, 5:0" 5, blue and green eyes, brown hair and reasonably handsome, enjoy schedy landsoller, engly pubs, cinema, theatre, good fact, are seeking two inteligent, attractive, schristicated ladies under 20. 276271

BATH MALE Quiet male, 41. N/S. own fiz., signify disabled, into one me, eviation, meals one computing, seeking

lady up to 45, for triend strip, evenings out and maybe more. #6270 FRANCOPHILE Civersed, aguarian male teacher, young 55, more non than wealthy, enjoys good conversation, swim ming, chess, gardening, wine, travel, seeks blonde sam lady. 304. NE or any-

where #6267 SLINNY OUTLOOK Teacher. 47. 5'10", friendly. easygoing nature, finds interest in many aspects of life, would like to share dship with an attractive intelligent woman.

LOOK NO FURTHER Attactive, professional, intellectual, self-employ male. 34. no ties, enjoys sports, socialising, seeking N.S. temale for

friendship relationship. Cambridgeshire. #5998 IDEAS TURN ME ON Shy, mourably romantic teacher, 42, seeks tactile, sensual lady, for long-term relationship. Any area. 25154

FIRST-TIME ADVERT Black male, 20s. 6', slim build, outgoing fun-loving, very romantic, into the arts, inc, living life, seeks open-minded. British lemale, any race, for serious relation ship, maybe more. \$26170 FLOQUENT BUT SOMETIMES...

inaniculate male graduate, 39, 6'2", enjoys conversation, red wine, films, seeks hedonistic female, to share interests. Gloucs. **#5987** GOOD-LOOKING TEACHER....

.36, 5'5", enjoys pubs, lady, for friendship, and tun. #5994 YOUNG TALL HANDSOME nights invout, seeks friend ly, easygoing woman, for tun, triendship and enjoying life. Norwich. 276102

HOPELESS ROMANTIC Tall, stim, intelligent man, 40, enjoys sports, politics, music, socially aware, GSOH, seeks stim, attrac-tive lady, 30-45, to care for. South Wales, 175988 outh Wales. #5986

CULTURE VULTURE Artist academic, polyglot, eclectic, unpreter , sensitive, non rich, 46, 5'9", presentable, seeks younger, warm, cultured. elegant lady. South London/Surrey/North East

Ireland. 256100 PLEASE REPLY Tall, dark, handsome, selfemployed businessman. 40, seeks happy, intelfgent, beautiful girlfriend, 24-32. London. 125984 ALPHA BETTA CURI CULUM Araki, bums and eyes,

Aran, durins and eyes.
Chekhov, dares, erotic art,
first takes, girfishmass,
humour, ideas, joint, kindness, love, lust and literature, music, Never-Never land, open, passion, quiet, respect, serendipity, truth, up, voluptuous, want, x, zest for life, how bout

> READ THIS CAREFULLY Professional guy, 40s, 6"1", derivbrown, athetic, well-buit, N/S, GSOH, seeks lady, under 40, N/S, GSOH, for friendship initially, hopefully lasting love. London/surround \$26098 ATTRACTIVE

> WIGMATIC MALE 30s, seeks intelligent, witty woman, to share laughs, wine plues, good times and more. North West. WITTY DOCTOR

Single male 28, seeks suitable, single woman, similar age, sarcastic and faisty if possible. London. \$76095 MATURE & CHARISMATIC Sporty black male, s icated female, to share romantic pursuits of e special kind. 276043

LEFTIST BUT WITTY Male library clerk, 33, failed writer, gentle and writy, undogmatic leftist, fikes

pubs, walks, cycling, food, conversation, seeks compassion, thoughtful, non-materialistic temale, for materialistic female, for relationship. Oxen/London/ FROM OUT OF WOWHERE

Good-looking, professional male, 31, 510°, seeks skinny big build bubbly fe come. Looks unimportant. GSOH essential if you leave a message I proto get back to you. #F6174 ROMANTIC

Protessional mate, 35, enjoys travel, good conver lessional temale. Bristol THIS IS NO YOLK ...

Lindon male, 33, seeks female, to share left over Easter egg, Fans of Celine Dion, rap music or anyone with an IQ lower than room temperature need not apply, 226168 HAPPY GUY SEEKS... Professional male, 36, tall, dark, caring, with many interests, seeks woman, 25-40, for friendship. Oxor/Bucks/N Hants.

ary Queries? il you should have any question about any aspects of our Voice Personals" service, pleas FREE on 0800 216 351

2-6000

VERY URGENT Ring me now, I'm alone in London and seek plain Jane, 30s, but well-sculptured, to love and care for. #6164 PERSONALITY COUNTS Fun, thoughtful sensitive,

come. London. 226157

caring male teacher, 27, seeks kind, caring female Oriental lady most wel-

seeking men

LONDON AREA Black male, 26, 5'8", 13 stone medium build, with goates, fun-loving, intergoalds, toyes travel, socialising, meals out, cin-ema, seeks easygoing, fun, intelligent white male, 28-30, possibly over 5'8", GSOH, to generally enjoy MUSIC LOVER

Graduate, protessional, male, 51, likes classical music, historic houses, books, history, the arts, seeks similar male, 40-50, for friendship, possible 1-2-Aidlands area. 126175

Call Now! To respond to siny.
Voice Personals ad cell 09065 547 142 Cats can it per representations

WANTED: ATTRACTIVE GUY Gay professional male. 25, seeks similar man, 18+, to nights in/out, for fun and . friendship. Cardiff area. **±6096**

ian male, 23, 58°. Asian main, 23, 30 of dark/brown, sim, attractive, into reading, socialising, theatre, seeks similar man, non-scene, for intrustrio, possibly more. Wolves/Staffs. \$2,593 FUTURE FRIENDSTIP Gay male, 28, handsome, masculine, warm, gentle,

into country houses, gardering, good food, classi-cal music, seeks pre-sensible mature mend, 40+, Landan/Ha Counties, 25998



Attractive, intelligent, out-going temale, 28, 5'4", enjoys sport, socialising, cinema, ciube, travelling, seeking female, similar age, with similar interests, for friendship, possible relationship, Call me.

OLITGOING Cartno, outgoing female, 5'4", with a great personality, is seeking a mature, caring female, 23-34, Stockton or Middlesbrough POSSIBLE PUTURE Female, 33, 5'6', si build, attractive, Se based, enjoys going out, theatre, cinema, eating out,

socialising, countryside walks, seeks temale, k triendship first. \$2.6321

atternative & YOU ARE FEMALE ...

...fundamentally unsub-missive, 40-50ish, aggres sively successful (men find you scary), yet your after ego screams for influential planting ures, for cresive, truly gentle in Midlands, 126390 TRANS MALE

THANS MALE SEEKS FEMALE Normal, everyday male, 43, 56°, likes bowling, music, cinema, eating out, driving, seeks honest, female, GSOH, for longterm, loving relationship.

happiness. Oxford, 126228 HL I'M JOHN HI, FM JOHN
Athletic male, mid-30s, seeking couples who are looking for that little bit extra, for healthy, adventurous, tun times together.

Can travel, \$5,278

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through egg donation. If you are a woman under 36 and would like to help us, please call nurse Jane on 0171 224 0707 quoting reference number 11046

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Pleasure













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GSII HOW

39955 5414

MODERN MANNERS: YOUR CUT-OUT-AND-KEEP GUIDE TO SURVIVING THE MINEFIELD

POPPY FOLLY

YOUR STARS: IT COULD HAPPEN

مكذا من الاحل



Dear Serena. At 38, I accepted that the chances of my finding a reliable man to father a child while I was still fertile were slim. Dearly wanting a child and being in a positinn to have one without needing any financial help, I had a child by donor. Jack is now six. and a healthy, happy child in every way. The only problem is this: be is beginning to show interest in where he came from and, particularly since he started at a church school where most of his classmates are in standard nuclear families, in why he doesn't have a father. What do I

Emily, Huntingdon

Oh, blimey, Emily, you mean you've only just started thinking about this now? You've had seven-odd years to work out a story, and you expect me to come up with a solution just like that? Please remember in future that if a truth is unpalatable, it's best to get it out in the open as quickly as possible. Secrets imply shame. And shame implies that

you've done something wrong. You must let him know about the facts of life in all their permutations as quickly as possible, before someone else does and makes the turkey-baster option seem freakish. Also: do consider moving him to a secular school. He'll find it easier to cope with his conceptual circumstances if he's not surrounded by little Christian children and their smugly natural parents.

Dear Serena, My au pair has been helping herself from the drinks cabinet while we're out. The quantities aren't huge, and she's certainly not drunk in charge of the children, but it's still theft. In all nther ways, she's ideal. Hnw do we tackle this?

Presumably your au pair is 18? Buy cheaper brands, and make a point of saying: "By the way, you must be desperate for a drink some evenings. If there's a bottle of wine open and you really want a glass, do just say." The

Jane, Newbury

poor child's meant to be living as part of the family, after all, and sbe will probably get the message if you look knowing enough when you say it.

Dear Serena, My boyfriend and I have decided to move in together and see how it goes before we commit further. We don't want to buy together until we are sure we can cope 👩 with sharing the same space long-term. The tbing is, we can't agree on who sbould mave into whose flat. His flat is larger but mine is better furnished (although, of course, he doesn't agree with that). What should

we do? Donna, Birmingham

ove in the sign of Taurus is not as easy

as it sounds - Taureans are so swollen

assuming you want to do the job in the

in sucb inconvenient places that it's

hard to get as close as you need to.

old-fashioned way. They are unlike air signs (wbo

lubricious but. above all, longwinded. Taureans

Tudor banquet. They like to stuff animals with

that isn't entirely legal, even in these days.

don't make so much a meal of their love life as a

other animals before stuffing themselves; they like

Luckily, Taureans are not very communicative,

to make a grande bouffe of the bedroom in a way

except when they're hungry thence William the

much during sex (except to say, "Turn over") so

we're always kept at a distance and, in a sense

(perhaps, in fact, in every sense) this is just as

well. However, here is a local curiosity: at their

Silent and Charles Bronson). They never talk

are passionate but quick) - being laborious,

You have two choices. You could rent a whole new flat and pay for it by renting out both of yours. This might seem like a load of hassle, but couples often find that the political problems produced by one moving into what has so far been the other's space are

better in the long run. The other option is this: move your furniture into his flat and his into yours, then rent yours out. That way, you maintain some level of equal power over your mutual space and, bopefully, by the time you decide to pool

insurmountable, and it might be

your resources properly, his furnishings, which were probably bought, like most men's, in a single afternoon in Ikea, will have been irrevocably destroyed by the lodgers and you

point of crisis Taureans are prone to making a

himself doing precisely this, be realised that

be had refuted his maxim ("Of that we cannot

both philosophy and sex for a new career

strange whistling sound and shricking, "Ooblidah!

Ooblidah! Ow! Ow! Ow!" When Wittgenstein found

speak thereof we must remain silent") and gave up

Taureans love submissives, which is wby we find

born this week in the dark beart of the sign Mayor

Daley, Sir Stafford Cripps, Vladimir Zhirinovsky,

Saddam Hussein, William Randolph Hearst, and

Taureans - which is wby Mary Wollstonecraft only

Taurus has gluttony engrained into its astrology

but there are those who are expert at turning this

Sir Thomas Beecham. Submissives also like

ever had English lovers, and why she was so

to good use - Marconi, as we know, made the

world's first radio receivers out of ice cream.

will never have to give bouse room to them again.

I was thinking of marrying a

footballer, but I'm worried because of the high divorce rate in the husiness. Alsn, I'm unsure about the effect on my career. What dn you think? Kirstie, Liverpool

Go ahead. At the very least, you'll have lots of fun choosing marble dinner tables and leather settees. And if it ends in divorce, you are guaranteed your own cable television chat show,

Dear Serena, I was feeling a bit run down recently. and a friend suggested I try a session of reiki healing. Having handed over £35 to a woman in a tie-dyed viscose dress and Bo Derek plaits, I spent 45 minntes lying on my back with my eves closed while she cupped ber hands and held them nver various points on my body. After half an bour. I got so bored I fell asleep, waking 15

minutes later to find my healer beaming at me and telling me how well I'd responded. I am still knackered, and £35 poorer. Can I ask for my money back?

Shaunagh, Hampstead

I have consulted my pet guru, who closed his eyes, pinched his fingers together and, after some time, said; "My Daughter. Remember the words of the sages. Tired person easy mark to part with money." Be philosophical. Accept this experience as a lesson in being more judicious in your choice of adviser. Also: cut down on booze, eat your greens and try going to hed early for a few weeks. You will be amazed at the regenerative effect it has upon your chakras. And that will be £20 plus VAT, please.

Knotty problems with the world today? Write to Dear Serena, The Independent, 18th Floor, 1 Canada Square. Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, where they will be treated with the customary sympathy



tell him?

ARIES

TRY TO cultivate polite people - they'll take the edge off the sullen aggression you're exuding. Resist the attractions of people you can behave hadly with. Your amorous talents will exercise themselves in an unusual, not to say extreme, way - you may soar to the beights of filthy, selfindulgent, orgiastic depravity or plumb the depths of chastity. You'll jump to conclusions and squash flat whatever's there at the moment. Try to keep your private parts in private.



TAURUS

THIS IS unusual for you, this sudden sparkle, it's as though you're enjoying yourself. People wbo have admired you from a distance may be caught with the desire to put their hands inside your underclothing; they sense they will not be repulsed. And then the post-coital revulsion surprises you: it doesn't bappen. You want more it's as though you've been blessed, and happiness delivers you friendship, money. luck. It matters not that you understand it so little.



GEMINI

YOU CAN now understand what's been going on ss, of course, you're determined not to. The forces that have been operating so covertly are available - but for your eyes only. For once, your memory won't let you down and you may be able to keep two - or even three - ideas in your head at the same time. This means it's a good time to apply for a new job. Your mind has never been more independent and may declare UDI from the rest of your body



養養病 等效益加速系統

CANCER

THAT BREATH of fresh air - is it to clear your head, or to impel you somewhere you fear may be too dark? A sense of growth - rebirth almost - is growing, but whether it's because you have further degradation to go through first, or whether you have your destiny in your grasp already... this is not clear. Praise God, pass the ammunition and remember the moisturiser tespecially if you're male). You are right to be wary of anger, but don't fear it.



YOU ARE a fighting sign so it shouldn't be surquerwous and quarreis becoming. Your argumentation will be basic but ineffective. The only source of success for you will be force - but even if you do succeed, was it really what you wanted? Now less than ever should you trust your instincts. A sort of damaged romantic will find you irresistible - nor will they be disappointed because your talent for excess sex is never more evident.

LEO



Virgo

YOUR MIND is quick, brilliant and penetrating but only in the manner of a mechanical needle. It rarely goes deep, and inevitably returns. This week, though, an aspect with Uranus allows your intuitions to come from further beneath the surface. This might create problems: rely on inspiration from above rather than below. You make vulgar assumptions and arrive at ridiculous conclusions, but the drama with which you unburden yourself is worth watching.



in macramė.

irritable all the time.

LIBRA

YOU'RE IN luck, but then you usually are. Demany come to refresh themselves. You show off so skilfully that many fall in love with you, and there will even be those who want you. Disappointment will dog them, naturally, but they will not regret the experience. An aspect with Jupiter may stir a vague religious sense - perhaps you will ascend from this sphere (you will want to write the memorial service first.



SCORPIO

MARS STILL isn't pulling its weight but Mercury has come into trine with Pluto and that opens up the depths to your frightening intuitions. You can see the sources of power, you can sense the deep structure of physical arrangements - the material and emotional architecture created by pure eoergy. You could probably learn enough to change the shape of anyone around you - if only you bad the energy. Artists and private investigators will be best favoured with this gift.



SAGITTARIUS

AT LAST - ease, comfort, happiness, religious faith - now what's the matter? Venus shines through Jupiter, and the understanding you have of people will be made useful by your self-confidence. Artistic abilities will grow like Jack's beanstalk (perhaps you'll get a call-back on a panto? . Your partnerships will flourish but you might be bewildered by new events. You are bet-ter at faith than knowledge, but friends only want you to be nice - and for once, that's easy.



CAPRICORN

AT LEAST this opposition with Mars will bring you out of yourself, even it is something of a cockpit it brings you out into. But you will struggle for supremacy, and knowing your talent for dominion, you can exult in the upper hand. A conjunction with the Sun will then confirm your superiority: it is essential that you do not give away what you have won. Success is far harder to deal with than failure (you haven't had much practice, after all).



AQUARIUS

AQUARIAN FUNSTERS are well-endowed with and roma are free to join the dance you will create new steps, turns and twisted ways of approaching the problem and this will be very interesting for your exhausted partner (who will wonder suspiciously where you learned this new stuff). Any opportunities in radio or television will offer more success than you could cope with. Rich people will like you more than you like them.



PISCES

TWO NASTY aspects kick your week off and you will limp through the week as a result. The first will inflate your fragile ego with an unfulfillable desire for recognition - perhaps you'll start a cult, or attempt to get into the record books with unrecognisable sex acts. Mars only makes things worse - if you try to act decently, repression will form neurotic keloids deep in your psyche. It really is best to try and express these things - but only if we can watch.

CLASSIC CARTOONS

MARTIN PLIMMER ON MAC



'Cloning smelly old sheep. What time do you call

TROUGH NOT as distinctive or detailed a stylist as Giles, wbose wide-screen format and scope of setting influenced him, Stan McMurtry, or Mac. wins prizes for longevity and reliability, which increase in number the longer and more reliably he works. Last month's Press Awards named him Cartoonist of the Year in his 28th year as political and social cartoonist for the Daily Mail, during which time be also wrote comedy sketches

(with Bernard Cookson) for Tommy Cooper and Dave Allen. Mac is always smartly topical, often combining two news themes in one gag. He can link the announcement of a synthetic replacement for Guards' bearskins with a report of a woman whose underpants spontaneously ignite. Impossible? An exhibition of Mac's work at the Rae-Smith Gallery, Cecil Court, London WC2 from 27 April, shows how it's done.

hard to imagine there bad been yet another school shooting. Seven such incidents bave occurred in the States over the past 18 months. and they will continue bappening, probably with increasing frequency, until the underlying causes are effectively addressed. The reasons for such violence

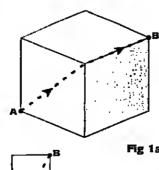
HILLARY CLINTON said it was

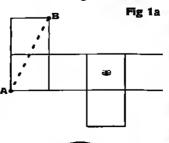
are uncontentious and wellknown. But just because the problem is understood and has a solution in theory does not mean that it will be solved in practice. Social factors, values and personal interests - in short. political considerations - get in the way. With a powerful gun lobby, controlling a gun culture that allows easy access to lethal weapons to anyone unable to control their anger, turns out to be a hot potato too far. Solving a social problem is of

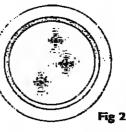
a higher order of complexity than an intellectual problem considered in isolation. People are involved. Like a good puzzle, such a problem must be antiintuitive, which militates against the very consensus necessary to motivate change in a democracy.

Great minds do not think alike. Otherwise they wouldn't be great. Societies, crowds and groups have their own logic. You can reason with individuals, But demagogues don't reason with crowds - they sway them. Even if all agree on what needs doing power, skill and political will are needed to effect change. But we









elect politicians not for their problem-solving skills, but on image: bow they talk and move. The line from the Tom Lehrer song: "At last we have a senator who can really sing and dance!" points up a truth. So expert advisers are needed.

But what if social good and personal self-interest conflict? You can always fall back on Maslanka's Third law: "For every expert advising a course of action, there is one who advises the exact opposite." Choose the right experts and you can free yourself of doing the right thing.

Snlutinns to last week's problems 1 It is tempting to "see" the shortest route between opposite diagonals of the cube as shown in Fig 1a. Unfolding It does not distort the surface, bowever, and the sbortest route is as in Fig 1b.

2 See next week's Puzzlemaster.

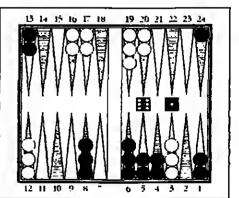
3 TIME FLIES = LIFETIMES.

Points to ponder 1 Three flies swim in a straight line away from a common starting point in a bowl of soup. How can the starting point be found? (Fig 2) 2 3 legs good, 4 legs not so good. Under what wobbly circumstances? Why? 3 Find a single-word anagram of COSY IGLOO.

Comments to: indy@ puzzlemaster.co.uk

BACKGAMMON

CHRIS BRAY



IN THE Strand Magazine Tournament of 1899, Watson was drawn against the fiendisb Moriarty. Early in the match, playing black, he had to decide bow to play 61.

Since Holmes had often expostulated on the strength of a 5-point prime, be decided to risk leaving a blot on his mid-point and played 13/7, 8/7. The depouement was swift. Moriarty hit with a 41 playing 13/12*, 22/18. Watson entered with a 53 playing bar/ 22, 6/1 and two rolls later had to drop Moriarty's redouble. Later, showing the position to

the great detective, he bemoaned his luck, "Luck, Watson, bas nothing to do with it," said again you have let a general my dear Watson."

principle interfere with your analysis of a position. "Five-point primes are all very

well, but what is black's objective bere? Surely his main priority is to escape his back man. Once that has been achieved he should win easily. This would indicate that the correct play is 24/18, 6/5. A tactical point, which should belp you to conclude that this is the right play, is that if Moriarty hits your blot on his bar point with a 1 or a 2, he must break a good point to do so. In this instance, escaping the back man takes priority over building what might be a very short-lived 5-point prime."

"As ever, Holmes, your explanation makes everything seem Holmes. "I am afraid that once so simple." "How complimentary,

SUNDAY TELE SION & RADIO

BBC1

6.40 Teletubbies (4747835). 7.20 Match of the Day (9088212), 8.30 Breakfast with Frost (68545). 9.30 The Heaven and Earth Show (46670). 10.30 Gardeners' World Take Two (3686854). 10.40 Ballykissangel (2209903). 11.30 Countryfile (6583), 12.00 Cn the Record (78090), 1,00 EastEnders

2.25 King Solomon's Mines (Compton Bennett 1950 UK), Stewart Granger stars in this adventure yarn

4.05 Are You Being Served? (7749632). 4.35 Junior Masterchef (3734458). 5.05 Lifeline (5146699). 5.15 News; Weather (5823908). 5.35 Local News (246800). 5.40 Songs of Praise (892318).

6.15 Wildlife on One. How Kenya's wildlite makes the most of the passing tourist trade (573187).

6.45 The Antiques Inspectors. Jill Dando and Antiques Roadshow experts visit the town at the centre of the Industrial Revolution, Ironbridge (S) (T) (819309).

7.30 Holiday: Fasten Your Seatbelt: The Universal Studios tour in Florida (R) (S) (T) (496).

8.00 Lest of the Summer Wine. Nora swoons at Billy's likeness to her idol, Errol Flynn (S) (T) (4767).

8.30 Goodnight Sweetheart (S) (T) (3274)

9.00 Ambassador. Pauline Collins continues to portray a fictitious British ambassador to Ireland. Britain and Ireland are brought to the brink of violent confrontation over ownership of Rockall (S) (T) (310835).

9.50 News; Weather (T) (936545).

10.05 CHOOL A Rather English Marriage. Drama in which a squadron leader and a retired milkman decide to bury their differences. See Drama of the Day, below (R) (S) (T) (623903).

11.45 World Snooker Championship (S) (734895)

12.45 Wojeck - Out of the Fire (George Bloomfield 1992 Can). After devoting 21 years to a medical clinic in Africa, former chief coroner Steve Wojeck returns home to Toronto (Then Weather) (174201). To 2.15am.

BBC2

7.00 Open University: Women in Science and Technology (9577090). 7.25 Cyber Art - Submerge (2418106). 7.30 Personal Passions (8835835). 7.45 The Business Caté (84903), 8.15 The French Experience (8555800). 8.30 Little Monsters (1781496). 8.35 Gadget Boy (9370125). 9.00 Fully Booked (276800). 12.00 The O Zone (7475380). 12.15 Lee and Herring's This Morning with Richard, Not Judy (3699903). 1.00 Around Westminster (94699). 1.30 Sunday Grandstand (13698816), 1.35 Athletics - Balmoral Road Races (7370361). 2.30 World Snooker Championship (80896854). 4,45 Rugby Union (8335670).

5.30 Snooker. Further second-round coverage from Shelfield (\$852583).

6.45 Star Trek: Voyager, Neelix, Chakotay and Paris are sent on a mission to gather data deep inside e class-one nebula (S) (T) (800651).

7.30 The Money Programme. New stories from the world of business and work (S) (T) (598).

8.00 Cold Wer. "Star Wars 1980-88". Ronald Reagan increased arms expanditure on fanciful space weapon research. Mikhail Gorbachev knew he could not respond to Reagan raising the stakes (891564).

8.50 World Snooker Championship. Coverage of the world championship from the Crucible continues (S) (5350800)

10.00 Have I Got News for You. With Gordon Brown's former spin-doctor Chartie Whelan (S) (T) (56380)

10.30 CHOICE Ed Wood (Tim Burton 1994 US). Biopic of low-budget director Edward D Wood Jr. dubbed "the worst director of all time". See Film of the Day, below (S) (T) (90534564).

12.35 The Body Snatcher (Robert Wise 1945 US). A dark tale of grave-robbing in 19th-century Edinburgh with Boris Karloff and Bela Lugosi, who is portrayed by Martin Landau in Ed Wood (above) (Then Weatherview) (5858355). To 2am.

ITV LWT

6.00 GMTV (14212). 8.00 Diggit (3271564). 9.25 Hey Arnold! (7623361). 9.55 Animal Ark (8385106), 10.25 Power Rangers (3579941). 10.50 The Mystic Knights (9105748). 11.15 Oggy and the Cockroaches (6027670), 11.30 Sunday Morning (53835), 12.30 Crosstalk (84651), 1.00 Jonathan Dimbleby (89106), 2,00 Generations (35612632). 2.10 Murder, She Wrote (1791496).

3.00 The Adventures of Robin Hood (Michael Curtiz 1938 US). Errol Flynn stars in this swashbuckling adventure (34721835).

4.55 Big Screen (3757309). 5.25 London Tonight (9528516), 5.45 Chef School (576274).

6.15 ITV News; Weather (890903).

6.30 Michael Barrymore's My Kind of Music. Michael Barrymore hosts the entertainment show in which competitors get the chance to perform (S) (T) (68106).

7.30 Coronetion Street. Leanne faces up to life on her own (S) (T)

8.00 Where the Heart Is. Drama series following the lives and loves of two community nurses in a small Yorkshire town, Tension mounts when Vic jeopardises a young man's rugby career (S) (T) (5106).

9.00 Bad Blood. Second in a three-part drama by Tony Marchant about a surgeon and his wife who try to adopt a Romanian child, Irving confronts Joe (Alex Jennings) about the death of the Americans (S) (T) (8670).

10.00 My Wonderful Lile. Sparky nurse sitcom. Donna loses a patient at work (S) (T) (50106).

10.30 ITV News; Weether (1) (501941).

10.45 Two Thousand Years. Melvyn Bragg's history of Christianity reaches the Roman Empire (334859).

11.45 5till in Bed with MeDinner (S) (T) (862583), 12.15 Film: A Killer among Us (503171). 2.05 Club@vision (7503423). 2.50 Jonathan Dimbleby (\$) (T) (4989959). 3.40 Cybernet (R) (S) (44428862). 4.10 Night Shilt (89134881). 4.15 ITV Nightscreen (8920930), To 5.30am.

Channel 4

6.30 Bagguss (7966038), 6.45 The Clangers (9310903). 7.00 Salty's Lighthouse (9579458), 7.25 Bug Alerti (9561293), 7.50 insektors (3320670). 8,00 Insektors (8630545), 845 Doug (8653496), 8.30 Hang Time (46903). 9.00 The Waltons (63380). 10.00 Mallou (42748). 10.30 Johnny Bravo (9192274). 10.50 T4: Planet Pop (8318187). 11.00 Hollyoaks (1143380). 12.10 Dawson's Creek (1771922). 1.05 The Real World (4569274). 1.45 Brussels - Behind Closed Doors (100380). 2.45 Football Italia (80893767). 5.05 Pocket Guides (9423962)

5.20 Bonnie Prince Charlie (Anthony Kimmins 1948 UK). David Niven stars as the Young Pretender, doing his bit for Scotland. A critical and box-office flop, with Margaret Leighton, as Flora MacDonald, and Jack Hawkins (77016545).

7.30 The Esteblishment. Photojournalist Nick Danziger meets Lord Gowrie, chairman of the Arts Council of Great Britain (T) (108).

8.00 PHORE Now We Are Two: the Real Peter Mandelson. Mandelson's biographer, The Independent's Donald Macintyre, triss to unravel "the prince of darkness". See Profile of the Day, below (3748).

9.00 Crash. The second in this repeat series about our fatal relationship with the motor car suggests that the safer and more comfortable the conditions, the more invulnerable we feel and. hence, the faster we travel (R) (I) (6212)

10.00 Heaven's Prisoners (Phil Joanou 1996 US). Retired Lousiane cop Alec Baldwin and wife Kelly Lynch have their peaceful existence shattered when they take in a young girl, the only survivor of a plane crash that may not have been an accident (T) (600903).

12.30 The 11 O'Clock Show (1876152). 120 Babylon 5 (7708510). 2.15 American Gothic (R) (7889881). 3.10 For the Love Of (3189686).

4.05 Alli Pool of London (Basil Dearden 1951 UK). Documentarystyle thriller about small-time smuggling (5899442). To 5.35am.

Channel 5

6.30 Hot Property (76930187), 6.55 Aussell Grant's Postcards (5624)854). 7.00 Dappledown Farm (2380941). 7.30 Mikshakel (2185699), 7.35 Wimzie's House (4597477), 8.05 From Jesus to Christ (8111854). 9.00 USA High (8302496), 9.30 Sister Said (6982895). 10.00 Mirror, Mirror (4674564). 10.30 The Wonder Years (8391380). 11.00 Beverly Hills, 90210 (2385496). 12.00 Inside Out Special (6382632). 12.30 The Mag (5741038). 110 5 News (19336467), 1,20 Frostrup on Sunday (31515106). 1.50 The Movie Chart Show (36488361), 2.20 Exclusive (2870467). 2.55 Family Affairs Omrabus (46933670). 5.10 The Tribe (97575496).

5.40 Tail Tale; the Unbelievable Adventures of Peças BE (Jeremiah Chechik 1995 US). Family adventure about a young boy whose father tooks set to lose his farm until the boy is visited by three frontier legends. All the boy has to do to save the farm is prove that he is deserving of their assistance. Patrick Swayze stars (S) (T) (92560816).

7.30 5 News and Sport (S) (T) (8664545)

8.00 Martial Law. Drama series about Sammo Law, an undercover police captain from Shanghai. Sammo joins torces with two Los Angeles detectives after one of his colleagues disappears while infiltrating an International crime ring (9878212).

9.00 Film Lethal Lollta (Bradford May 1992 US). One of the three headline-chasing movies made out of the case of Army Fisher, the young Long Island woman who violently attacked the wife of her older lover, Joey Buttafuoco, permanently disabling her. This film version of events was made with Fisher's assistance, reflecting her view that she was manipulated by Buttafuoco into committing the crime (S) (T) (49737767).

10.50 Water Rats. Police drama series set in Sydney Harbour. When the owner of an import-export company is killed by a bomb on the waterfront. an investigation ensues (S) (5479831).

11.45 The Comedy Network (8561800). 12.15 Major League Baseball . (90158881). **4.40** You Again? (S) (94999572). **5.05** Move On Up (R) (S) (1)079341). To 5.30am.

ITV/Regions

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BBC1 N Ireland As BBC1 England except 5.0 Lifetne from Northern reland (51486 BBC1 Scotland As BBC1 England accept: 11.30 Landward (6583). **BBC1 Wales**

Anglia
As 2WT except: 12.30 Angla News
Sunday Supplement (84651), 2.00 Hope
and Glona (9699), 2.30 Bugs Burry - AlAmerican Hero (969), 3.00 Murder, She
Whole (2767), 4.00 Fifter The Undefected
(95)1435), 6.05 Angla News (810767),
11.45 The Prince's Trust Party in the Park Concert (134011), 12.45 Still in Bed with MeDinner (17356), 1.15 Film: A Killer was recurrent (1/305): 1.35 Film: A K among Us (19070): 3.00 CubeVision (173442): 3.40 Unethan Dimbleby (9177046): 4.25 Cybernet (8351782): 4.35 IV Mehlerren (2008649) 4.55 ITV Nightscreen (74998607), 5.00 Coronation Street (1794)

Central As LWT except 12.30 Lifeline (76574767), 12.35 Central Newsweek (3015803), 12.55 Central News and Weather (11262380), 2.00 it's Your Should Wedner (1225) Marrier, She Wrote (17248125), 3,30 Film: Christopher Columbus (433090), 5,25 Animal SOS (2846278), 5,35 Liefere (162632), 6,00 Central News and Sport (802749), 4,10

Jobfinder (7678152).

HTV Wales
As LWT except: 11.30 Sunday
Morning (8835477), 12.25 Weberfrom
(2635570), 12.55 HTV News (11262980).
2.00 Film: Journey to the Centre of the
Earth (278090), 3.50 Anatomy of
Disaster (7138354) 4.40 The Front Row
(3431812), 5.40 Soccer Sunday (22699).
6.40 HTV News and Weather (336900).
11.45 Shoot to Thrit (34011), 12.45 Sill
In Bod with McDirner (77355, 135 Film:
A Killer among Us (190713, 3.00
CubatVision (778442), 3.40 Joneshen
Dirnbelby (317046), 4.25 Cybernet
(8851152), 4.55 Nightscreen (74998607).
5.00 Cornation Street (1794).

HTV Wesst

HTV West As HTV Wales except: 12.25 Hope and Glona (2635570), 3.00 Murder, Sha. Wrote (1777815), 2.50 Film; Caesar and Cleopatra (60864486). 5.10 All Gardens Great and Small (5093944). 5.40 West Match Plus (232596). Meridian

Meridian
As LWT excepts 12.30 7 Days
(301632), 12.50 Meridian News
(785087), 2.00 Geravays (9699), 2.30
Murder She Wrote (50187), 2.30 Film:
The Understade (17.27606), 5.45
Meridian Tonight (576278), 11.45 The
Prince's Trust Party in the Park Concent
(13401), 12.45 Shi in Bed with McDirner
(17355), 1415 Film: A Killer among Us
(190713), 2.00 Cubel/ison (172442),
3.40 Jonathan Carlobely (9177046), 4.25
Cybernet (5851152), 4.55 Nightscreen
(7898607), 5.00 Presscreen (17794),
Westernammer

(#898807). 5.80 Freescreen (11794).

Westcountry by
As LBT except: 10.50 Cartoon
(8310545). 11.00 Westcountry Update
(7962). 12.30 Westcountry Update
(7962). 12.30 Westcountry Westcountry
Winness (9699). 2.30 A World of Wonder
(699). 3.00 Munder, She Wrote (3430922).
3.35 Film: The Cracksman (18020090).
6.00 Goals Extra (410819). 6.05
Westcountry News (87075). 11.45 Pulp:
a Feeling Called Live (134011). 12.45 Still
in Bed with MeDimner (1735). 135 Film:
A Köber among Us (80713). 3.10 In Bed with MeDiminer (1733), 3.00
A Käler among Us (18773), 3.00
Caubal/Ision (1728442), 3.40 Jonathen
Dimbleby (9777049, 4.25 Cybernet
(8851152), 4.55 Ngirascroen (14896607),
5.00 Coronation Street (1794),

Yorkshire Yorkshire
As LWT except: 12.30 Earth Matters (9455), 2.00 Calendar News (93749212), 2.05 Breakenways (9374583), 2.30 Stepping the World (51249564), 2.35 Firm: The Advertures of Robin Hood (74664380), 4.30 Coronation Street (91670), 5.30 Catendar News and Sport. 111767), 5.45 Goals on Sunday (576274), 2.05 Firm: Sajna Dot Leke Aana (19070830), 4.25 Jobfinder (9492775).

Tyne Tees Newsweek (84651). 2.00 North East News and Weather (85738212). 5.30 North East News and Sport (111767).

As Channel 4 except: 12.00
Uctathwyntiau Uned 5 (84667545).
12.35 GG (67258390). 1.20 Firemio
(17388458). 1.50 Dawson's Creek
(40669345). 2.40 Brodeside (94046583).
4.05 Wild Tales (55930390). 5.00
Newyddion (41884018). 5.05 Maniffesto
(7890729). 5.35 Pobal y Cwm
(73906699). 7.30 Borwm 4 (99934532).
8.00 Dechrau Canu Dechrau Canmol
(4723800). 8.30 Llcyris Oborts
(89523545). 9.05 Jecthyd Da (33381038).
8.50 Newyddion (84482789). 10.05
Firr: Hesvan's Prisoners (7405941).
12.30 Now We Are Two: the Real Peter
Mandelson (42127794). 1.30 Shanghai Mandelson (42121794). 1.30 Shanghai Vice (48305268). 2.30 Close.

DRAMA OF THE DAY

A RATHER ENGLISH MARRIAGE (1005pm BBC1) If you missed Andrew Davies' Bafta-nominated adaptation of Angela Lambert's novel when it was on at Christmas, then this is the perfect opportunity to catch it. Albert Finney is an ex RAF squadron leader and Tom Courtenay is a former milkman - both widowed on the same day. Joanna Lumley co-stars as a glamorous widow.



PROFILE OF THE DAY

NOW WE ARE TWO: THE REAL PETER MANDELSON (8pm C4) The TV version of the Independent political commentator Donald Macintyre's biography of Peter Mandelson, which has been serialised in this newspaper for the past week. This wry film about the "prince of darkness" follows Mandelson from school rebel to moustachioed Labour spin doctor and the fateful triumvirate with Tony Blair and Gordon Brown.



FILM OF THE DAY

ED WOOD (10.30pm BBC2) 'Tim Burton's sympathetic and surprisingly moving biography of Ed Wood, director of such schlock classics as Glen or Glenda, and the supposed "worst film-maker of all time". Johnny Depp plays the crossdressing Wood, with Sex and the City star Sarah Jessica Parker as his clotheslending girlfriend. But the picture is stolen by Martin Landau as Bela Lugosi.



639381) 1.30 Equestrianism (778903), 4.00 Football (13835). 5.30 Motorcycling (56019), 7.00 Termis (53380) 9.00

Boxing (19309), 10.00 Sportscentre (996187), 10.15 Motorcycling (77097354), 12.30 Close.

7.00 Angels (3713458). 7.30 Blake's Seven (5126895). 8.25 Blake's Seven (6165854). 9.20 Dr

Assassin (14019564), **11.05** Dellas Omnibus (42485380), **1.00 Film**;

(42485380). 1.00 Film: Kidnapped (1971) (5009800). 3.00 The Bill Ormibus (40188922). 5.25 Ask the Family (3848583). 5.00 Ballykissangel (91733019). 7.35 The Good Life (7258293). B.55 To the Manor Born (2281800). 8.55 Porridge (3033835). 9.35 One Foot in the Grave (8983164).

(3033835) 9.35 One Foo in the Grave (6983106). 10.15 Auf Wiedersehen, Pet (45408458) 11.20 Auf Wiedersehen, Pet (9996748) 12.25 Harnish Mecheth (2156220) 1.25 The Scriptorse (455702m)

The Sculptress (4550268)

3.00 - 7.00 Shopping (3394666).

Who Omnibus: The De

UK Gold

RADIO

RADIO 1 (976-998MHz FM) **6.30** Kevin Greening 10.00 Mark Gooder's Radio 1 Request Show. 1.00 Jamie Theakston. 3.00 Top of the Pops. 4.00 The UK Top 40. 7.00 Radio 1's Dance Anthems with Dave Pearce, 9.00 Annie Night, 1.00 Emma B. 4.00 - 6.30 Scott Mills, RADIO 2 (88-902MHz FM) 7.00 Don Maclean. 9.05 Steve Wright's Sunday Love Songs. 11.00
Parkinson's Sunday
Supplement. 1.00
Desmond Cairington.
3.00 Russell Devies. 3.00 Russell Davies.
4.00 Fred Astaire: Step by Step. 4.30 Sing Something Simple. 5.00 Pam Ayres. 7.00 Hugh Hour. 9.00 Alan Keith.
10.00 Malcolm Laycock. 11.00 The David Jacobs Collection, 12.00 Katrina Leskanich 3.00 - 4.00 Alex Lester. RADIO 3 (90.2-92.4MHz FM) 6.00 On Air. 9.00 Brian Kay's Sunday 11.00 Artist of the Week 12.15 Music Matters. **1.00** The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert 2.45 Glorious John. 4.00 100 Great Singers. 4.15 Centurions.
4.30 The Year.
5.45 Sunday Feature:
Mr Nabokov's Blues.

7.00 Opera on 3. A con-

cert performance of Tip-

pett's second opera, live

from the Royal Festival Hall. The libretto is base

on Homer's account of

Johnson, baritone (King

soprano (Hecuba), BBC Singers, BBC National Orchestra of Wales/David

of Troy. David Wilson-

Priam). Susan Bullock

Atherton Part 1

7.50 Homer Today.

write his opera 'Kino

Priam in 1958, he based his libretto on Homer. Does this work represe one of the last vestiges of interest in this ancient author, or will coming ages reread and reinvent his work as we have been doing for two millennia? Ofiver Taplin investigates the continuing and vigorous response of contemporary artists to Homer's

North State North Nicholas Spice and Miles Kington to review the latest books on music. est books on music.

Tomes under discussion
this month include 'Keeping Time - Readings in
Jezz', 'Haydo Studies',
and Vikram Seth's new novel, 'An Equal Music'. 9.00 King Priam, Part 3. 10.15 Private Passions. Michael Berkeley's guest this week is Amelia Freedman, founder of the world-famous Nash Ensemble and now head ssical music at London's South Bank Centre. 11.15 Tallis Scholars. (R) 11.55 BBC Philharmonic. 1.00 - 6.00 Through

RADIO 4 (924-946MHz FM) 6.00 News Briefing. 6.05 Something Understood. 6.35 On Your Farm. 6.57 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Sunday Papers. 7:10 Sunday 7.55 Radio 4 Appeal 8.00 News. 8.05 Sunday Papers 8.07 Sunday Worship. 8.45 Letter from 9.00 News; Broadcasting House. 10.00 The Archers. 11.15 Desert Island

Journey. 12.58 Weather.

1.00 The World This

Weekend. 1.30 All the Rage. 2.00 News; Gardeners' Question Time. 2.30 Marquerite Patten's Century of British Cocking.
3.00 News; Classic
Serial: Voss.
4.00 News; Open Book.
4.30 Adventures in Poetry. 5.00 News; File on 4 Special 5.40 A Mathematician

Reads the Newspapers. 5.54 Shipping Forecast. 5.57 Weather. 5.57 Weather.
6.00 Six O'Clock News.
6.15 Pick of the Week.
7.00 News; The Archers.
7.15 The Copy Snatchers. Guests from around the world observe, perody and dissect topical British stories from terrains permise permises. from foreign perspec-tives. Presented by David Aaronovitch. 8.00 News; Feedback Roger Bolton presents the programme which working life. 9.00 News;

views about BBC radio. 8.30 Nice Work. Alison Mitchell explores the issues that shape your Consequences: Women's Freedland looks back at political or social turning points in the past 50 years, in this programme, he examines the vote for women's ordination in the Church of England. (R) 9.30 Analysis. 'Dreaming of Green Pastures'. The future of the countryside is being debated, but have we stopped to ask why we value it and what it means to us today? Ian Hargreaves looks at the significance of the land in our national ife and imagination. 10.00 News; The West-minster Hour. With just Discs. 12.00 News; Quote. ten campaigning days left in Scotland, Wales Unquote. 12.30 Sentimental

and the council elections, Andrew Rawnsley has the latest political head-lines, including at 10.45 Class Act: in the last of three programmes on postwar prime ministers and class, Prot David Carnadine discusses ideas of a classless society advocated by John Major and Tony Bler, 11.00 News; A Good Read. Sarah LeFanu and guests actor Gareth Armstrong and biograph-er Jenny Uglow discuss three favourite paper-

tacks. 11.30 Something 12.15 Experimental Feature: Alarmed. 12.30 The Late Story: My Children Are Movers. 12.48 Shipping 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 • 6.00 Faming

RADIO 4 LW 12.00 - 12.04 News Headines; Shipping Forecast, 8.00 - 10.00 Open University. **RADIO 5 LIVE** 1693. 909kHz MW) 6.00 Brief Lives. 6.30 Breakfast with Andrew Nell 9.00 SportsWeek. 10.00 Sunday Service. 11.25 Sunday Sport.

6.00 Scottish Premier 8.00 News Extra. 8.30 The Junk Trade. 9.00 Global James Proctor presents news and insight from around the world, including what people abroad make of Britain's big issue of the 10.00 Late Night Currie. the weekend's big issues. Phone 0500 909693. at fluc. 1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. CLASSIC FM (100.0-101.9MHz FM)

6.00 Sarah Lucas 9.00 Classic Romance, 12.00 Across the Threshold with David Mellor, 2.00 Alan Mann. 4.00 Margaret Howard. 6.00 Countdown Top Teru Countdown lop len.
2.00 Sinpoth Classics at
Seven. 9.00 Sunday
Night at the Opera.
1.00 Michael Mappin.
1.00 Evening Concert.
3.00 • 6.00 Mark **VIRGIN RADIO**

(1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 1058MHz FM) 6.00 Pete and Geoff. 10.00 Danny Baker. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Janey Lee Grace. 6.45 London Calling with Janey Lee Grace/AM Richard Allen. 7.30 Richard Allen. 10.00 Mark Forrest. 1.00 Steve Power. 4.30 - 6.30 Richard Allen.

WORLD SERVICE RADIO (196kHz LW) 1.00 The World Today 1.30 My Century. 2.00 The World Today. 2.30 Meridian (Feature). 3.00 The World Today, 3.30 Global Business, 4.00 The World Today, 4.20 Sports Roundup. 4.30 . 7.00 The World Today. TALK RADIO 6.00 My Favourite Yeer. 7.00 Sunday Morning People with Paul Ross and Heien Gibson. 10.00 Derek Draper and

Peter Hitchens 12.00 Sunday Sport 6.00 My Favourite Year, 7.00

Best of the Week 8.00

James Whale, 1.00 . 6.00 Mike Dickin.

Sky Premier 6.00 The Pirate Movie (1982) (50448187), 7.35 The Princess Bride (1987) (81605212), 9.35 An (81605212), 9-35 An American Tail: Flevel Goes West (1991) (3274908). 11.00 Problem Child (1990) (93699), 12.30 Hollywood Buzz (17903). 1.00 The Pirate Movie (1982) (89466380), 2.50 An American Tail: Flevel Capes West (1901)

An American Tail: Flevel Goes West (1991) (3505800). 4:40 Problem Child (1990) (1348449). 5.30 Problem Child (2) (1991) (38899). 7.00 A Simple Wish (1996) (19922). 9.00 Barry Norman's Film Night (33477). 9.30 Gla (1998) (67734903). 11.35 Beverly Hills Cop (1984) (307748). 1.20 The Perez Family (1995) (447131). Family (1995) (447133). 3.15 Screamers (1995) (444336). 5.05 - 6.00 Hollywood Buzz

Sky Movie Max 6.00 Heart Full of Rain (1997) (30274) 8.00 Behind the Waterfall (1995) (90309) 10.00 Susia O (1995) (35309) 12.00 The Prantom (1996) (73832) 2.00 Heart Full of Rain (1997) (69380) 4.00 Susia (1997) (69380). 4.00 Susie Q (1995) (1212). 6.00 Tha Phantom (1996) (56816). 8.00 Crocodile Dundee (1986) (51361). **10.00** Booly Call (1997) (2266835). **11.20** Fumble (220033), 1220 FL/Taxe in the Bronx (1995) (777477), 12.50 Big Night (1995) (913794), 2.40 Laws of Gravity (1992) (277591), 4.20 Indepen-dents (1996) dents' Day (1998) (4453133) 5.20 - 7.00

Behind the Waterfall (1995) (72740591)Sky Cinema 11.00 Higher and Higher (1943) (5570835). 12.30 Deadine USA* (1952) (9836449). 2.00 Five (9836449), 2.00 Five Graves to Cairo (1943) (6842309), 3.45 The Desert Rats (1953) (4050106), 5.45 Bartle of the Bulge (1965) (96495632), 7.45 Cinsma Nation (1235903), 8.00 The Gurs of Navarone (1961) (35916090), 10.35

SATELLITE & CABLE Breezy (1973) (33101854). 12.25 Payment on De-mand* (1951) (5814607). 2.00 Shanghai Tried (1995) (5100084), 3.50 Higher and Higher* (1943) (47544794), 5.20 Close,

FilmFour 6.00 It Could Happen To You (1994) (8032458), 8.00 American Buffalo (1996) (2008274), 9.30 Oleanna (1992) (9725922), 11.00 Things Change (1988) (3163274), 12.45 Vanya on 42nd Street (1994) (1380881). 2.40 - 6.00 Farewell My Concubine (1993) (26085794). Discovery Channel
4.00 Code Red (1358729).
5.00 Extreme Machines (6570090). 6.00 Ultimete Guide (5612835), 7.00

Crocodile Hunter (6588019), 7.30 Crocodile (5588019). 7.30 Crocodie Hunter (1496532). 8.00 Beyond the Truth (8494545). 9.00 Discovery Tenth Amiversary: Mysteries of Magic (8414309). 10.00 Mysteries of Menio Mysteries of Magic (847496), 11.00 Mysteries of Magic (3720748), 12.00 Medical Detectives (7034201). **12.30** Medical Detectives (6751978). **1.00** Justice Files (6491046). 2.00 Close. Sky One 6.00 Hour of Power

(82941). **7.00** What-a-Mess (13748). **7.30** Samurai (15/49), 7.30 Samurai Syber Squad (25583), 8.00 Orson and Olivia (96922), 8.30 Teenage Alen Fighters 95293), 9.00 The Simpsons (86545), 9.30 Pokemon (20477), 10.00 Dream Team (21767), 11.00 leam (2/767). 11.00 Wresting (1/813). 12.00 King Pi (30800). 1.00 7th Heaven (2/749). 2.00 Beverly His, 90210 (76729). 3.00 VP (32748). 4.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (44583). 5.00 Star Trek: Vevener (6390). Star Trek: Voyager (6380). 6.00 The Simpsons (5552). 8.30 Simpsons (564). 7.00 King of the Hill (4309). 7.30 and Rock from the Sun (7748). 8.00 Earth. Earth Confession

(62477). **9.00** The X Files (75941). **10.00** Fabulous! (72800). **11.00** South Park (45212). **11.30** Highlander (84019). **12.30** LAPO (50978). **1.00** Sightings (94510). **2.00** - **7.00** Long (94010). **2.00** - **7.00** Long Play (1346775).

Sky Sports 1 6.00 Moto-Plus (45922) 6.00 Moto-Plus (45922)
6.30 Rugby Union Update (94583). 8.00 Aerobics (58361). 8.30 World Sport Special (57632). 9.00
Fight Night (10187). 11.00
Fird Super Sunday Leeds United (552212). 2.00
Goals on Sunday (34767). 3.00 Ford Super Sunday (34767). 3.00 Ford Super Sunday (Sheffield Wednesday V. Chekses (5368361). 6.30
Super League Sheffield v. Welkefield (41106). 9.00
Spanish Football (86944). 11.00 Ford Super Sunday (33800). 1.00 Wrestling (9018133). 4.00 Close
Sikv Sports 2 Sky Sports 2 6.00 Watersports World (878)6161, 7.00 Aerobics (5276859), 7.30 World Sport Special (6721944). 8.00 Soccer Extra

8.00 Soccer Extra (3257944), 11.00 Volleybal Mem's Nelional Volleybal Cup Final (155748), 1.00 Rughy (827277), 2.30 Cricket West Indies v Australia (2556033), 6.30 Cricket West Indies v Australia (2503729), 10.30 NASCAR Winston Cup (6516583), 1.30 Spenish Footbal (5486152), 3.30 Scottist Footbal (2314539), 4.30 Close. Sky Sports 3 8.00 Essebell (57379632). 11.00 European Your Golf (54551038). 3.00 Max Power (43921038). 4.00

irish Motorsport (24593477). 4.30 Motorcy-cling: Japanese Grand Pro (29757351). 6.00 Football angers v Aberdeen 3788090), 8.15 Ford Golf (13768090), 8.45 Ford Gol USA (78037729), **11.00** World Sport Special (43901274), **11.30** Sailing (62052545), **12.00** Closa.

Eurosport 8.30 Football (55670).

(3394666).

Living
6.00 Can't Cook, Won't
Cook (7105903), 6.30
Animal Rescue (1516019),
7.00 Professor Bubble
(6609197), 7.25 Barney
and Friends (661022),
7.50 Babaloos (4776361),
7.55 Practical Parenting
(477582), 8.00 Calliou
(9721485), 8.0s Poke Dot
Shorts (6476318), 8.1s
Johnson and Friends
(9472470), 8.25 My Zoo
(8886458), 8.30 Tiny and
Crew (8895651), 8.50
Practical Parenting
(9139748), 9.00 The Heat
is On (3906899), 9.20
Can't Cook, Wor't Cook
(2577583), 10.00 The

8.00 Ally McBeal (3774645), 9.00 Jerry Springer (72505380), 10.45 Entertainment Now! (7097699). 11.00 Sex Life Down Under (3444458), 12.00 Close. TNT

9.00 Angels with Dirty Faces* (1938) (93923361). 11.00 I Am a Fugitive from a Chain Gang* (1932) (90903941). 1.00 Ourfit (1973) (90696065), **3,00** The Password is Courage* (1962) (84193997), **5,00** Close

Paramount
Comedy Channel
7.00 Cueless (8831), 7.30
Caroine in the City (7380).
8.00 Mad about You
(6309), 8.30 Spn City
(5816), 9.00 Cheers
(97699), 9.30 Cheers (20800). **t0.00** Cheers (67019). **10.30** Cheers (76767). **11.00** Frasier (1967). 11.30 Haser (69816). 11.30 Whose Line is it Anyway? (20564). 12.00 Films: Radio Days (1967) (58881). 1.30 Club Class (17997). 2.00 Almost Perfect (897/5), 2.30 . 70s and Fibs (9/510), 3.00 . Mork and Mardy (83442), 3.30 Abbott & Costello (82862), 4.60 Closs.

Granada Phis: 6.00 Mission: Impossible (6588212), **7.00** Plus on Plus (1425670), **7.30** That's My Boy (1411477), 8,00 Watching (1750748), 8,30 Time after Time (1759019). 9.00 Mission: Impossible (925t25). 10.00 Behind the Velvet Ropes (8800854). 10.30 Homes with Style (1762583). 11.00 Adventures of Sheriock Holmes (1420125). 12.00 (5967729). **1.00** Maggie and Her (1424941). **1.30** Hallelujah (5970293). **2.00** Poirot (880'583), 3.00 Bonanza (4547019), 4.00 High Chaparral (4559854). 5.00 Classic Coronation Street (2196458), 7.30 Time after Time (3819632). 8.00 Point (7970564). 9.00 Jeeves and Wooster (7887800). 10.00 In

FULL 7-DAY TV AND RADIO LISTINGS APPEAR IN 'THE INFORMATION'

المكدا من الإصل

(257683). 10.00 The Roseame Show - Highlights (1830899). 10.30 Brookside Omnibus (8030403). 12.30 Films (1948). (2481645). 2.15 Films All About Eve* (1950). (9409941). 5.00 Mrs. Greenthumbs Double Bit (7910899). 6.00 Through the Keyhole Double Bit (2556090). 7.00 Filescue 3th Double Bit (2776075).

Suspicious Circumstances (7960187). 11.00 Granada Men & Motors (9550019). 2.00 Close.



DIGITAL, CABLE AND SATELLITE TELEVISION

Service of the servic BBC CHOICE DIGITAL CALLY 12:40 Dog and Drinosaur (5073-163) 2.55 The Biz (11181) 3.20 Stoggors (6750278) 3.45 L and K Replay (107927) 5.35 Bettersos Dogs Home (6370453) 6.45 Match of the Day Greats (4722148) 6.30 10 Per Cert (5437960) 7.00 Pck of the Week (35272078) 11.45 Row Z (5885989) 12:45 Close.

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Pock of the Week (35272076). 11.45 Row Z (5887989). 12.45 Cose.

BBC NEWS 24

9.00 BBC News (3760705). 7.00 BBC News (3868822). 7.30 Tabring Movies (7305927). 8.00 Weekend 24 (427163). 8.00 BBC News (448386). 9.30 Straight Talk, (5830829). 10.00 BBC News (448386). 9.30 Straight Talk, (5830829). 10.00 BBC News (4671678). 11.30 Smosonis World (467247). 12.00 BBC News (468502). 12.30 Pace in the Crowd (5834144). 1.00 BBC News (4682227). 2.00 BBC News (370328). 2.30 Straight Talk (4504076). 3.00 BBC News (467563). 4.00 BBC News (4685298). 5.00 BBC News (4677345). 9.00 BBC News (4695298). 5.00 BBC News (4677345). 9.00 BBC News (4695298). 9.00 BBC News (4677345). 9.00 BBC News (4695299). 9.00 BBC News (336959). 9.00 BBC News (469482). 9.30 Straight Talk (5854909). 10.00 BBC News (469274). 12.30 BBC News (469274). 12.30 BBC News (469274). 12.30 BBC News (469274). 12.30 Seven Days (375261). 1.00 BBC News (5809729). 2.30 Smpsonis World (637564). 3.00 BBC News (658548). 3.30 Science Review (5309729). 2.30 Smpsonis World (637564). 3.00 BBC News (6585645). 3.00 BBC News (6585645). 3.00 BBC News (6585645). 3.00 BBC News (6586648). 3.30 Science Review (65865645). 4.00 BBC News (4566003). BBC News (45660003). BBC News (456600003).

BRAVO BRAVO
8.00 The Men Who Killed Karnedy (845-1927).
\$69 Pok of the Day 9.00 The Men Who Killed Kernedy (843-163). 10.00 Lone Gurment (8437350). 11.00 Films: Mercenary (1996) (9575278) 1.00 Lone Gurmen (641800). 2.00 The Men Who Killed Kernedy (3708552). 3.00 Films Mercenary (1996) (8283835) 5.00 - 8.00 The Men Who Killed Kernedy (509854) **BRAVO DIGITAL**

BRAVO DIGITAL
DIGITAL DAY FROM 12NOON - 8:00PM
12.00 Teenage Manan Hero Turtlea (7785415),
12.20 Wrestling (8:64:298), 1.00 Acaputco HEAT
15:652453), 2.00 The Extremists (6:50:057), 2.30
Hero Turtles (14:3527), 3.00 The Fail Guy
(0:99076), 4.00 Acaputco HEAT (13:0911), 5.00
The Extremists (6:52:8637), 5.30 Wrestling
(14:5537) 6.00 The Fail Guy (5:849589), 7.00
Acaputco HEAT (8:445279), 6.00 The Men Who
Krilled Kennedy (8:43:463),
10.00 Lone Gummen (8:47250), 11:00 Films
Mercenary (1996) (9:575279), 100 Lone Gummen Mercenary 1995; (9575279), **1.00** Lone Gurmen (A41800), **2.00** The Men Who Killed Kennedy (3708552) **3.00** Films: Mercenary (1996) (8283835), **5.00** – **6.00** The Men Who Killed

CARLTON CINEMA CARLITON CINEMA
7.00 Alfs Button Affoat (1933) (5559347). 8.00
Easy to Wed (1946) (985905). 11.00 Once a Joby
Swagman (1948) (9743329). 1.00 Long Voyage
Home (1940) (9656724). 3.00 The Mortal Storm
(1940) 4475989). 5.00 Sentia (1955) (2926927).
7.00 Tom Jones (1963) (8673927). 9.00 Bad
Boys (1963) (9067144). 11.00 The Frisco Kd
(1979). (4467960). 1.00 Bad Boys (1983)
(4454212). 3.00 The Frisco Kd (1979) (1238922).
5.00 - 7.00 Affs Button Affoat (1938) (2578699). CARLTON KIDS DIGITAL ONLY

6.00 Up for h (5622453), 9.00 Tirry Time (2554365), 12.00 The Big Comty Couch (5310:63), 12.30 The Little Princess (7233124), 1.30 Breakers (9506366), 3.40 Henry's Cat (266927), 4.00 Worzel Gunmidge (544598), 4.30 High Five (5434873), 3.00 Raw Replay (5308328), 7.00 Close. CARLTON SELECT

CARLTON SELECT
5.00 What's Cooking? (67958231), 5.30 Byker
Grove (2451873), 6.00 Byker Grove (24518786),
6.30 A Kind of Living (24532386), 7.00 Flying
Start (67978095), 7.30 Birds of a Feather
(2452250), 8.00 Murder Mystery Weekend;
Lovejoy (93960892), 9.00 Lovejoy (93957320),
10.00 Pic in the Sky (9395035), 11.00 Ruth
Rendell: A Guitly Thing Surprised (46720960),
12.00 Ruth Rendell: A Guitly Thing Surprised
(h016005), 1.00 Ruth Rendell: A Guitly Thing
Surprised (85872564), 2.00 Close.

CARLTON WORLD

*CARLTON WORLD

7.00 Fair Cops (5159182), 7.30 Flying Cops (5440434), 8.00 Court TV (2222415), 9.00 The Verdici (5249569), 9.30 Soco (515678), 10.00 Mindhunters (5305724), 10.30 Feb Cops (5302144), 11.00 Court TV (5937980), 12.00

CARTOON NETWORK 6.00 The Tidings (48777144) 6.30 Sinky Ba (62003279) 7.00 Tabaluga (46737250) 7.30 Looney Tunes (4673307) 8.00 The Powerpuff Girs (1396434) 8.30 The Sylvester and Tweety Mystanes (51395705) 8.00 Dexverts Laboratory (57386057) 9.30 Ed. Edd m' Eddy (78840692). 10.00 Cox and Chicken (62087231). 10.30 | Am Wessel (51315569). 11.00 Supermen (43940163). 11.30 Satman (43941892). 12.00 The Flintstones

BBC1 N IRELAND As BEC1 England except: 4.40 Final Score (262/705, 5.00 Northern reland Results H328), 5.30 Final Score (5/2057), 5.45 Newsine (5/35908),

BBC1 SCOTLAND As BBC1 England except 4.40 Atlemoon Sportscene (576057), 5.10 Fresh Prince of Bel Air (2308927), 5.45 Reporting Scotland (535908) 10.40 Sportscene - Match of the Day (7289967), 11.50 Real Women (786357), 12.40 Film: Hustle (907922), 2.40 News 24 (34647941). BBC1 WALES

As BBC1 England except: 4.40 Final Score (2633453), 4.55 Wales on Sanuday (6129328), 5.45 Wales Today (535908). ANGLIA

As LWT except: 12.30 Stepping the World.

Travel series Featuring a visit to Tenerife which
boasts black volcanic sand and man-made

51395271. 12.30 Looney Tunes (75851908). 1.00 Tom and Jarry 16738521. 1.20 Scoolby Doo (76850279). 2.00 Beetispano (6797899). 2.30 The Mask (24530365). 3.00 2 5 hipsi Dogs (5797974). 3.00 Johnny Brave (24538434). 4.00 The Sylvester and Tweety Hystenes (24534347). 4.30 Dester's Laboratory (24502577). 5.00 Ed. Edd in Eddy (6796569). 5.30 Cow and Chicken (2453787). 6.00 Antenanics (24534724). 6.30 The Finistones (24534724). 6.30 The Finistones (24534724). 6.30 The Finistones (2452676). 7.00 Bamen (5796705). 7.30 Superman (2454960). 5.00 Freekazold (6797453). 8.30 Johnny Quest (67959960). 9.00 Scoolby Dog (43960927). 9.30 Johnny Brave (7683144). 10.00 The Powerpuff Girls (5390250). 10.30 Dester's Laboratory (5134298). 11.00 Cow and Chicken (43932144). 11.30 Haw Weesel (6269345). 12.00 Walchy Recas (46609800). 12.30 Top Cat (29773322). 1.20 Hepi It's the Har Bear Burch (69859037). 2.00 The Tidings (25867532). 2.30 Omer and the Starchild (2586757). 3.00 Elinky Bill (6698767). 3.30 The Frunties (2985709). 4.00 The Tidings (25861212). 4.30 Tabaluga (56982496). 5.00 Omer and the Starchild (1062584). 5.30 - 3.00 The Mega Roundshout (46747729). Roundsbout (48741729)

CHALLENGE TV

5.00 The Gurnes Room (6836453) \$.15 Strike it Lucky (768637). \$.45 The Games Room (668569; 6.00 Family Fortunes (9689; 6.30 The Games Room (37723). \$.45 Candid Carnera (17950). 735 The Games Room (253347). 7.25 Rot with it (738328]. 7.55 The Crystal Maze (575540). 9.00 The Games Room (253347). 8.15 The Krypton Factor (263322). 9.45 The Games Room (544521). 10.00 Candid Carnera (82908). 10.36 Celebrry TV Bloopers (370347). 11.20 Cornal Knowledge (70263). 1.00 3-21 (22380). 2.00 Karaoke Challenge (64854). 2.30 Studs (43361). 3.00 Smpty Irrestable (20361). 3.30 Give Us e Che (2990). 5.00 - 8.00 Shopping with Screenshop (85853). CHALLENGE TV

DISNEY CHANNEL
8.00 Gummi Bears (\$3446'8) 6.25 Classe
Toons (\$2986'1) 6.35 Talespin (\$899144) 7.00
Classa Toons (\$760434) 7.30 Aladdin - the Series
(\$5666'8) 7.35 101 Dalmahans (\$357095) 8.00
The Little Mermad (\$56'8) 8.30 Hercules - the
Series (\$4983) 8.00 Ari Anack (\$244705) 9.35
Doug (\$267827) 10.00 Recess (\$675873) 10.15
Pepper Arm (\$638734) 10.30 Neds News
(\$7453) 11.00 Smart Gay (\$2960) 11.30 Teen
Angel (\$9989) 12.90 Boy Meets World (\$8705),
12.30 Brotherly Love (\$3989) 1.00 Danasaurs
(\$0453) 1.30 Amazing Ammals (\$45427927) 1.55
Winnis the Pooh (\$290828) 2.30 Bide Size
(\$1773540) 2.20 Bear in the Big Blue House
(\$044453) 1.245 Winnis the Pooh (\$45653) 3.00
The Little Mermad (\$279, 3.30 Goof
Troop (\$601) 4.00 tot Dalmations (\$365) 4.30
Hercules (\$250), 5.00 Creen Angel (\$455, 8.30
Hercules (\$250), 5.00 Creen Angel (\$450), 5.30
Hercules (\$250), 5.00
Hercules (Shopping with Screenshop (89583).

CHALLENGE DIGITAL
DIGITAL ONLY FROM 600AM - 500PM
6.00 Take a Letter (3163) 6.30 Fitheen to One
(32329, 7.00 Second Guess (61228, 7.30 A
Word in Your Ear (73163), 8.00 Third Pursuit
(5982), 8.30 Gladators 2000 (50163), 9.00
Fitheen to One (445), 9.30 Blockbusters (65347),
10.00 Concentration (66909), 10.30 Say the
Word (70927), 11.00 Give Us a Clue (65434),
11.30 Second Guess (66163), 12.00 Fritieren to
One (61279), 12.30 Family Fortunes (8963), 1.00
Karacha Challenge (53287), 1.30 Say the Word
(88434), 2.00 Thirdal Pursuit (7378), 2.00 Candid
Camera (1960), 8.00 Give Us a Clue (9453), 3.30
Dont Drink the Whater (3705), 4.00 Love at First
Sight (5540), 4.30 Sautis (1724), 5.00 The
Games Room (8836453), 5.35 Style h Lucky
(786837), 5.45 The Games Room (666866),
6.00 Family Fortunes (9899), 6.30 The Games
Room (377231), 6.45 Candid Camera (7860),
7.35 The Games Room (55347), 7.25 Rol with
It (738326), 7.55 The Crystal Maze (575540),
8.00 The Games Room (58363), 9.15 The
Krypton Factor (263322), 9.45 The Games
Room (544521), 10.00 Candid Camera (82909),
10.30 Celebrity Ty Bloopers (3703-7), 11.20
Don'l Feed the Gandolas (509057), 12.00 Close
DISCOVERY CHANNEL

Discovery Channel.

Discovery Channel.

4.00 Weepons of War (381057). 5.00

Battlefields (6510518). 6.00 Battlefields (5645163).

7.00 Lost Treasures of the Ancient World (844153). 6.00 Black Box (8427873). 9.00 Pole Postton (8447637). 10.00 Crocodile Hunter (8440734). 11.00 Discover Magazine (3753076).

12.00 Battlefields (6785922). 1.00 Battlefields (6597274). 2.00 Close. (6597274), 2.00 Close. DISCOVERY DIGITAL

DISCOVERY DIGITAL
DISTAL ONLY FROM 800AM - 400PM
8.00 Solar Empire (670645), 9.00 Outback
Investopitor (783521), 10.00 Science Frontiers
(3752347), 11.00 First Flights (1390705), 11.30
First Flights (1391434), 12.00 Berty's Voyage
(5656279), 1.00 Seawings (5665927), 2.00 The
Specialists (523434), 3.00 Osassar (5529366),
3.30 Disastar (1443540), 4.00 Weapons of War
(1381057), 5.00 Battlefields (650069), 8.00
Battlefields (564563), 7.00 Lost Treasures of the
Ancient World (8444531), 6.00 Black Box
(8427873), 200 Pole Position (8447837), 10.00
Crocodie Hunter (8440724), 11.00 Discove
(3753075), 12.00 Battlefields (6785922), 1.00
Battlefields (6597274), 3.00 Close

DISCOVERRY HOMES 8, 1 FISSIBE DISCOVERY HOME & LEISURE

DISCOVERY HOME & LEISURE
DIGITAL ONLY FROM 400PM - 12MIDNIGHT
6.00 Garden Rescue (1718/73, 6.30 Garden
Rescue (513/453), 7.00 Tool Time (574/4328), 7.30
These Four Wests (5755/83), 8.00 Ginne Shelter
(7768/52), 8.30 Wood Wizzard (776/873), 8.00
Go Feshing (778/453), 6.30 Hooked on Fishing
(563/3329), 10.00 Charlie West Fishing (5122705),
10.30 Salmon Run with Jack Charlton
(772863/47), 10.55 The Home 8, Leisure House
(84755/453), 11.00 Time Team (76768/11), 12.00
Artiques Trail (7778889), 12.30 Routes
(8637144, 1.00 Doorstep DIY (5776827), 1.30
Our House Down Uniter (8638/45), 2.00 A GRANADA PLUS
6.00 Hart to Hart (65/1540), 7.00 Plus on Plus
(1465296) 7.30 That's My Boy (1444705), 8.00
Watching (1783070), 8.30 Bowler (1782347) 9.00
The Avenges (2448453), 10.00 The Persuades
(144989) 11.00 Man in a Sufficiase (1453453),
12.00 Fiddlers Three (1785/163), 12.30
Fiddlers Three (1786/163), 12.30
Fiddlers Three (1786/163), 12.30 Emmerdale (7364892) 3.00 Bonanza (4570347). 4.00 The High Chapparral (458282) 5.00 Hawaii Five-O (559786) 6.00 The Persuaders (5929569) 7.00 The Avengers (7994144) 8.00 Our House Down Under (\$6364!5), 2.00 A Weekerds Work (\$500231), 2.30 Our House (1448059), 3.00 Two Country (\$529365), 3.30 Time Traveller (1443540), 4.00 Close.

beaches, (30250), 1.05 Angla News and Weather (15458811), 2.15 Campus Cops (334569), 2.45 Gong Wai (5000115), 2.55 Film: City beneath the Sea. Deep sea treasure seekers strike trouble in the Canbbean, Colourtui

seews sine trouble in the Canbbean, Colourus but uncomming adventure, with Robert Ryan. Anthony Quinn, 1469562161, 5.05 Anglis News and Sport 19823368), 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (103038), 2.50 Bac Office America (448767), 3.15 World Football (39941), 3.45 CD

As LWT except: 12-30 Eastern Mx (30250). 1.05 Central News and Weather (15468811). 2.15 Film: Man About the House (76663), 3.50 TimeCop (7846908), 5.05 Central News.

r and Goals Extra (9623369), 6.00 News: c (570811), 4.00 Jobfinder (84800), 5.00

UK (1567/25). 4.40 Pushing the Limits - the Making of Eraser (42985941). 5.05 ITV Nightscreen (9372/25).

CENTRAL

PICK OF THE DAY

BOTH JULIA ROBERTS (right) (Cameron Diaz), she calls on a gay a few years in the box-office doldrums before the comedy My Best Friend's Wedding (8pm Sky Premier) spectacularly relaunched their careers, In this satellite premiere from PJ Hogan, Roberts plays a restaurant

woo him away from his fiancée

EUROSPORT

FOX KIDS

EUROSPORT
6.15 Motorcycing (#508786), 9.00 Yez Action
(19927) 10.00 Mountain Bike (81095), 10.30
Official (\$8502), 11.30 Motorcycing (\$111365),
1.45 Cycling (#6425960), 3.30 Tenns ATP Tour
(#8502), 5.00 Footbal (\$7296), 7.00 Marcial Arts
(\$2434), 6.00 Strength (\$182), 9.00 Bowing
(\$8618), 10.00 Motorcycing (\$1705), 11.00 Tenns
ATP Tour (\$7273), 12.00 Bowing (\$2019), 1.00
Close 3.00 - 8.30 Motorcycing (\$210903),
FILMFOUR

#BART USDF1 9.00 The Navy vs. the Night Monsters (1969) (97440827) 7.35 The Sheet Third (7654811) 8.00 A Life Less Ordinary (1997) (806023) 10.00 Leon (1994) (8157980), 12.00 (3014 (1980) (4632748), 2.00 The Dead Zone (1983) (9574816) 3.45 - 6.00 Other People's Money (1991) 0644839301

and Rupert Everett had spent friend (Everett) to pose as her boyfriend. In just a few scenes Everett steals the film.

The assassination of the American president John F Kennedy, has been the source of many conspiracy theories, which were further stirred up critic who has just four days by Oliver Stone's movie, JFK. to halt the planned wedding A two-part film, The Men Who of the man she loves (Dermot Killed Kennedy (8pm Bravo), Mulroney). In an attempt to investigates fresh evidence. JAMES RAMPTON

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes (7903892), 9.00 The Dame Edna Expenence (7990329), 10.00 Frantos Howerd Strikes Again (787892), 10.00 Danny Baker On., (796540), 11.00 As Granada Men & Mozors unto 2.00am (9583347), 2.00 Close

#ISTORY CHANNEL
4.00 Tales of the Gun (2943989, 5.00 Tales of the Gun (2056250), 8.00 Tales of the Gun (27573298), 7.00 Biography: Oliver Cromwell (6707898), 8.00 Close.

ITV 2 DIGITAL ONLY 9.25 Videotech (477/950) 9.55 Sport in Action (933773) 10.00 Board Wild (89537) 10.30 NBA 99 San Antonio Spurs vs Houston Rockets (5444) 11.30 Firtbol Mundial (42569) 12.00 Wildrack (3940502) 12.20 The Adventures of Captam Pugwash (9533540) 12.30 Humcanes (32331) 1.00 Adventures of Captam Pugwash (9533540) 12.30 Humcanes (32331) 1.00 Adventures of Captam Pugwash (1793766) 1.30 Sinbart Creatures (4709250) 1.25 It's 6 Mystery (402366) 2.25 The Scoop (2025279) 2.45 Footbal First (76777057) 5.30 NBA 99 (1732) 6.00 NBA 99 New York Kindis vs Charlotte Homets (40250) 7.00 Survival Special (50775) 6.00 in the Wild (69724) 9.00 Double Bil (62311) 11.00 God's Gift (27255) 12.00 The Haumad Fisthania (34816) 12.30 The Mix (64564) 1.30 NBA Action (14774) 2.00 Close. ITV 2 DIGITAL ONLY

LIVING
6.00 Can'l Cook, Won't Cook (7'38231), 6.30
Annual Rescue (1849347), 7.00 Bug Aert
66531455, 7.25 Casiou (19864531, 7.30 Polke Dot
Shorts (4800453), 7.40 Johnson and Friends
(1480451, 7.50 Bahaicos (47'16989), 7.55
Practical Parenting (47'08960), 6.00 10 plus 2
(172'2651, 8.10 Tiny and Crew '98 (88'14231), 8.15
Tiny Tales (24'76956), 8.25 My Zoo (22'76'750,
8.35 Tiny and Crew (196'763), 8.50 Practical
Parenting (8'1620'76), 9.00 The Heat Is On
98'399627, 9.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook
(25'00811), 10.00 Home and Away (52'7453),
12.30 Films Belle Start (1941) (10805973), 2.30
Films Belle Start (1941) (10805973), 2.30
Films Belle Start (1941) (10805973), 2.30
Michael Cole Double Bill (56'76858), 6.20
Michael Cole Double Bill (56'768286), 6.00 Ally
McBeal (64'07683), 9.00 Jerry Springer Uncut
(725'45'038), 10.45 Entertainment Now'
(7020227), 11.00 Sex Life Down Under (34'77'86),
12.00 Close,
MTV LIYING

6.00 Med for Hits (822927). 9.00 All Time Top 10 Europe Music Awards Performances (96569). 10.00 MTV Seuropean Top 20 (81499). 12.00 MTV News Weekend Edition (83637). 12.30 Say What? (81621). 1.00 All-Time Top Ten Special Effects Videos (86075). 2.00 The Lick R & B Chert (59085). 3.00 All-Time Top Ten Michael Jackson Video (79637). 4.00 Select MTV (2927). 6.00 MTV News Weekend Edition (1347). 8.30 MTV Livet Garbage (5927). 7.00 All-Time Top Ten Floor/Rens (83328). 8.00 Dance Floor Chert (2075). 9.00 Celebrity Death Match (54328). 9.30 MTV News Weekend Edition (88144). 11.00 The Grind Double Bit (72434). 12.00 brand: new (72651). 1.00 Saturday Night Music Mix (74670). 8.00 (1941). 6.09 Med for Hits (822927), 9.00 All Time Top 10

FOX KIDS

8.00 Adventures of Doda (68261163), 6.05

Masked Rider (50978347), 6.30 Beetleborgs

Metafia (50981908), 6.55 Power Rangers Turbo
(3822160), 7.45 Steet Surier (554927), 8.30

Mortal Kombai (1242434), 8.35 Mowgli: The New
Adventures of the Jungle Book (590347), 9.00

Goosebumps (8841637), 9.25 Eere, Indana: the
Other Dimersion (8820144), 9.50 Home to Rent
(8302347), 10.00 Sam and Max (4694453),
10.25 Mad Jack the Frate (2373183), 10.50 The
Secret Fiels of the Sty Dogs (24146075), 11.00

Life with Louie (4230106), 11.25 Dennis and
Grasher (78293347), 11.50 It's Your Call: Hero
Turbes – the Next Mutation or Maskad Rider
(65847811), 1.55 The Increable Hulle (55363366),
2.20 from Man (65898057), 2.45 Fantastic Four
(1102163), 3.30 The X Men (6521347), 3.30 Fo.
Kids Xpress (5339601), 3.35 Spiderman
(574057), 4.00 Goosebumps (1685326), 4.25

Eene, Indiana: the Other Dimension (9775821),
4.50 Casper (5769296), 5.30 Dennis and
Grasher (536960), 5.30 Ace Ventura (545927),
6.00 Donkey kong Coursy (5451540), 6.30

Eek/strovagerza (5759296, 6.35 Dogy and the
Cockreaches (8214502), 7.00 Cose.

GRANADA PLUS

600 Metal to hiter (655640), 7.00 Phys. on Phys. NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC PRAI FORAL GEOGRAPHIC
7.00 Flood (2244637), 8.00 Almeture Dynasties
- Chrisk Insects (222057), 6.00 The Socret
Leopard (2233521; 10.00 Mummes of the Talda
Makan (2343908), 11.00 Mystery of the Nazca
Lines (329328), 11.30 Myths and Giants
(6556502), 12.00 Beast of Bardia N276564),
1.00 Close.

Insectia - Living Art (9952453), 1.30 Heart of the Congo (5125095), 2.00 The Secret World of the Probescs Monkeys (6568347), 3.00 Side by Side (32222862), 4.00 Grazly and Morn: Uneasy Trues (3227827), 5.00 Shark Files (5155095), 8.00 The Secret World of the Probescs Monkeys (6101415), 7.00 Flood (224487), 8.00 Ministers (9101415), 7.00 Flood (2242817), 8.00 Ministers of the Talda Makan (2243908), 11.00 Mystery of the Nazza Lines (229328), 11.30 Mystery of the Nazza Lines (229328), 11.30 Mystery of the Nazza Lines (229328), 11.30 Mystery of the Secret Leopard (5073545), 3.00 Ministers of the Talda Makan (4058670), 3.00 Mystery of the Nazza Lines (2575251), 3.30 Mysters of the Talda Makan (4058670), 3.00 Mystery of the Nazza Lines (2575251), 3.30 Mysters of Gants (6527725), 4.00 Beast of Bardia (667800), 5.00 Close.

NICK ELODEON
7.00 Takes from the Cryptheeper (272'6), 7.30
8rothers Fub (1772), 8.00 The Journey of Allen
Strange (19882), 8.30 Seter Seter (1983), 9.00
Kenan and Kel (45985), 9.30 Sabrina, the
Teenage Witch (43347), 10.00 Fugrats (94589),
10.30 Hey Arnold (39927), 11.00 Angry Beavers
and Hey Arnold (1944), 11.30 Catdog (17873),
12.00 The Wild Thomberrys (292'9), 12.30
Rockes Modern Life (4783), 1.00 Kablarri (1960), 1.30 The Ren and Strrey Show (46434),
2.00 Nickelodeon's Top 20 (95286), 3.00 Keran
and Kal (7453), 3.30 Keran and Kel (6453), 4.00
Sister Seter (5960), 4.30 Sister Sister (1444),
5.00 Sabrina, the Teenage Witch (8298), 5.30
Sabrina, The Teenage Witch (8298), 5.30 NICKELODEON

PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL CHANNEL
7.00 Cueless (9434). 7.30 Caroline in the City
2873, 6.00 Mad about You (8182). 6.30 Spin
City (4989). 9.00 Cheers (36908). 9.30 Cheers
(67827). 10.00 Cheers (20908). 10.30 Cheers
(9588). 11.00 Fraser (31453, 11.20 Whose Line
is it Anyway? (83453). 12.00 Film: The Purple
Rose of Caro (1985). (77880). 1.30 Club Class
(29103). 2.00 Almost Perfect (5564). 2.30 Tbs
and Fibs (34699). 3.00 Mork and Mindy (95651).
3.30 Abbott & Costello (19657). 4.00 Close.

8.00 Michight in the Garden of Good and Evit (1997) (582345). 11.00 Close. 6.00 Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evit (1997) (332881). 9.00 Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evit (1997) (8649908). 12.00 Close. SKY BOX OFFICE 3

G.00 Titanic (1997) (1795732), 9.30 Titanic (1997) (2773279), 1.00 Titanic (1997) (5333714), 4.30 Titanic (1997) (4336927), 4.30 Titanic (1997) (4336927), 3.00 Close.

SKY BOX OFFICE 4 8.00 Hard Ran (1997) (2282521) 18.00 Hard Ran (1997) (4675434), 12.00 Close, 4.00 – 6.00 Hard Ran (1997) (6312293) SKY PREMIER

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
7.09 Flood (2244637), 8.00 Miredure Dynesties
- Crimal Insects (222057), 8.00 The Secret Agent Cub (1896) (70863),
12-00 Flood (2236361), 10.00 Miretures of the Takta
Makan (2236306), 11.30 Myths and Giants
(855503), 12.00 Beast of Bardie M276564,
100 Close.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
DIGITAL
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DIGITAL ONLY FROM 1100AM - 700PM AND
100AM - 500AM
100 Tiger's Eye (3227347, 11.30 Mother Bear
Man (3228075), 12.00 Shark Files (510631), 1.00

SKY PREMIER
6.00 The Secret Agent Cub (1896) (70863), 2000 Indicatent on an American Housewife
1898) (20960), 10.00 Fire Willy 3: the Flescue (1897)
1898) (13521), 4.00 The Secret Agent Cub (1896)
1897) (1895) (1897) (1895) (1897) (1897)
1898) (13521), 4.00 The Secret Agent Cub (1896)
1897) (1897) (1897) (1897) (1897) (1897)
1898) (13521), 4.00 The Secret Agent Cub (1896)
1897) (1897) (1897) (1897) (1897) (1897) (1897)
1898) (13521), 4.00 The Secret Agent Cub (1896)
1898) (13521), 4.00 The Secret Agent Cub (1896)
1897) (1897)

SKY MOVEHIAX
6.30 Hernes (4453) 7.00 Blonic Everafter (1994)
(78637). 8.00 Man of Miracles (1998) (4282)
11.00 License to Drive (1989) (19076). 1.00
Blonic Everafter (1934) (53298). 3.00 The End of
the Golden Weather (1931) (88653298). 4.50
Behind the Planet of the Apes (13147569). 7.00
Man of Miracles (1998) (77693). 8.00 Tingger
Effect (1996) (170505734). 40.40 Hard Egirt (1997)
(777345-7). 182.25 Caught (1996) (172274). 2.15
Murder in My Mind (1997) (286670). 3.45 – 6.00
Kensas City (1996) (18179670).
SKY CINEMA

SKY CINEMA SKY CRIEMA
11.00 A Farewell to Arms (1957) (68557434), 1.35
The Masc Man (1962) (36764434) 4.00
Spetbound (1945) (792552), 6.00 The Yellow
Canary (1944) (505142), 8.00 Rebel without a
Cause (1955) (6506237), 10.00 Built (1966)
(6655786), 11.55 Two for the Road (1967)
(7793705), 1.45 The Fiend Who Walked the West
(1958) (2311212), 3.30 The Music Man (1962)
(96706651), 5.55 Close.

| Commercial Play | Commercial 6.00 Long Play (45091748).

8.00 Long Play (45091748)

SKY SPORTS 1

6.00 Hold the Back Page (54502), 7.00 Sky Sports Centre (99724), 8.00 Aerobics (11250), 8.30 Racing News (10521), 9.00 Super League Bradford va Halitax (84231), 10.00 Australian Rugby League (65569), 12.00 Galette Soccer Saturday (58586), 75.30 European Tour Golf (85596), 9.00 Spanish Pootbel (47502, 10.00 Fight Night (29613), 12.00 Karate (30631), 1.00 Spanish Footbel (25380), 3.00 Fight Night (64477), 5.00 - 6.00 Max Power (65274), SKY SPORTS 2

SKY SPORTS 2 SKY SPORTS 2
6.00 Sports Unimited (67/4444), 7.00 Aerobos C Style (97/647), 7.30 Racing News (2426732),
6.00 Soccer AM (5576889), 12.00 Australian
Rules Foetball (3812453), 2.00 Rugby Union
(157/82), 4.30 World Wide Rugby - Super 129
Tournament (6735637), 6.00 NFL Europe Berlin
vs Scottand (489/82), 9.00 Ford Golf USA
(8839960), 11.00 Baseball (6526502), 3.00 XZone (4751477), 2.30 Rugby Union Update
(440705), 4.00 - 6.00 Ford Golf USA (4764941).

SKY SPORTS 3
12.00 Mex Power (76832873) 1.00 X-Zone (46745279) 1.30 Cricket (68388811), 7.30 International Cricket West Indies vs Australia (9898963) 10.30 Basebak Mex (5038528), 11.00 Inside the PGA Serior Tour (43934502), 11.30 Rebot Sports (6208573), 12.00 Close. THT CLASSIC MOVIES

Rose of Caro (1995) (77880) 1.30 Cub Cass (29106) 2.00 Almost Perfect (15564) 2.30 Tbs and Fibs (34699) 3.00 Mork and Mindy (85651) 3.30 Abbott & Costello (16651) 4.00 Close.

SKY BOX OFFICE 1 12.00 Deconstructing Harry (1997) (8264293) 11.30 The Adventures of Huxletderry Firm (1960) (1963) 12.00 Deconstructing Harry (1997) (8264293) 11.30 The Naived Spur (1963) (1963) 12.00 Deconstructing Harry (1997) (8264293) 11.30 The Naived Spur (1963) (1963) 12.00 Deconstructing Harry (1997) (1997) 12.00 To Have and Have Not (1944) (1974753) 1.30 The Naived Spur (1963) (1963) 12.00 Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil (1997) (1928) 11.45 One is a Lonely Number (1972) 12.0770828, 14.50 One of Our Spies is Missing (1966) (1957) 3.30 One of Our Spies is Missing (1966) (1957) 13.00 Trouble TROUBLE

7.00 USA High (3764182), 7.30 USA High (3750969), 8.00 Blast (7762328), 8.30 Movies, Garrier and Videos (7794827), 9.00 Sweet Valley High (7785279), 9.30 Sweet Valley High (5653182), 10.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air (519231). (5653182). 10.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air (5f19231). 10.30 Fresh Prince of Bel Air (7773163). 11.00 In the House (1382950). 12.00 Weird Science (776545). 12.30 Weird Science (5565293). 1.00 Hearthreak High (5655453). 2.00 Biost (5504057). 2.30 Fresh Prince of Bel Air (1435521). 3.00 Weird Science (1446837). 8.00 Hearthreak High (142736). 8.00 Close. TROUBLE DIGITAL

DIGITAL ONLY FROM BOOMM - 700AM AND BOOPM - 12MIDNIGHT

Movies. Games and Videos (7794927). 9.00 Sweet Valley High (7785279). 9.30 Sweet Valley High (5653192). 10.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Ar (519529). 10.30 Fresh Prince of Bel Ar (77965). 11.00 In the House (037231). 11.30 In the House (138231). 11.00 Heartbreak High (565253). 2.00 Ward Science (776545). 12.30 Werd Science (5664298). 1.00 Heartbreak High (565253). 2.00 Bel Ar (635352). 3.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Ar (635352). 3.30 Proom Raiders (9480705). 3.45 Real Life Stones (948550). 4.00 In the House (142657). 5.00 Yikird Science (552637). 5.30 Weird Science (426873). 6.00 Heartbreak High (646998). 7.00 USA High (850873). 7.30 USA High (850873). 7.30 USA High (850873). 7.30 USA High (776544). 10.30 USA High (7775892). 10.00 USA High (77766144). 10.30 USA High (7775892). 11.00 Heartbreak High (3780502). 12.00 Close. UK ARENA.

UK GOLD

7.00 Angel: (3786786) 7.30 Neighbours
Omnibus (7975595) 9.25 Delhas Omnibus
(57022502), 12.20 EastEnders Omnibus
(7100827) 2.00 The Bel Omnibus (4078250),
5.25 Butterflies (2006298) 6.05 Film: The
Great Waldo Pepper (1975) (43779453) 8.00
What a Carry On (8286693) 8.35 Carrotins
Commercial Breakdown 3 (2598938) 9.40 Red
Dwarf VI (6908-15), 10.20 Monty Python's Plying
Carous (2298521), 11.35 The Young Oras (2072786),
12.20 Film: Sweet Liberty (1986) (3728496),
2.15 Rock Goes to College (8901564), 2.00 –
2.00 Shopping with Screenshop (4045354),
UK HORIZONS

UK HORIZONS
7.00 Get Going with UK Horizons (8664279).
9.00 Kamlesze (4928304) 10.00 Return to Hiroshima (8643786). 11.00 Top Gear GTI (8256250). 12.00 Tomorrow's World Plus (8497749). 1.00 Great Raiway Journeys (8483144). 9.00 Face to Face with David Attenborough (3530846). 2.40 Som to Be Wild (9322250). 3.00 Where Lemmings Dare (6539366). 3.30 Reef Encounter (8897329). 4.00 Lin on Earth (657299). 5.00 Apriled Hospital (659936). 3.30 Feef Encounter (6867529). 4.00 Life on Earth (650299). 5.00 Animal Hospital (159689). 5.30 Robot Wars (8819927). 8.00 Columbus and the Age of Discovery (8403908). 7.00 Melaria. Battle of the Merczotes (8093569). 8.00 The Private Life of Plants (6079989). 9.00 Airport (6559182). 9.30 Louis Therour's Weard Weekends (1625982). 10.30 Top Gear GTI (1018076). 11.30 Situation Vacant (4906927). 12.45 Situation Vacant (9355318). 1.00 Close.

(105076). ***1.30 Shuaton Vacarr (4906827).
***12.45 Shuaton Vacarr (915538). ***1.00 Close,
***ULK STYLE
***7.00 The Ar Show (8660453). ***7.30 Coest to Coast (8649960). ***8.00 Country Tracta (2916963).
***8.30 Tales from the Riverbank (2916963). ***8.00 A Golfer's Travels (2992960). ***9.30 How Does Your Garden Grow? (3575502). ***10.30 Gerdening Neighbours (2988444). ***10.00 The Flower Show (6148075). ***11.30 Growing Places (6149705).
12.00 Peter Seabrook's Gardening Week (2912724). ***12.30 Gardening Week (2912724). ***12.30 Gardening Week (2912724). ***12.30 Const to Coast (6496618). ***2.00 Country Tracta (2981218). ***2.30 Tales from the Riverbank (8917569). ***3.00 A Golfer's Travels (4739304). ***3.30 How Does Your Garden Grow? (3595366). ***3.30 Gardening Neighbours (9887705). ***9.30 The Flower Show (2284499). ***5.30 Growing Places (9882067). ***6.30 Gardening Neighbours (9887705). ***9.30 Coast to Coast (9898435). ***5.30 Gardening Veek (9818298). ***5.30 Gardening Neighbours (9898756). ***3.30 Gardening Neighbours (9898756). ***3.30 Gardening Neighbours (989873). ***1.30 Gardeners' World (2028670). ***1.00 Coast. *1.30 Gardeners' World (9882250). ***1.20 Peter Seabrook's Gardening Week (983690). ***12.30 Gardeners' World (2028670). ***1.00 Coast. ****12.30 Gardeners' World (9882250). ***12.30 Gardeners' World (9882250). ****12.30 Gardeners' World (9882250). ****10.00 Coast. ****10.00 Coast. ****10.00 Coast. ****10.00 Coast. ****10.00 Coast. ****10.00 Coast. **

VH-1
8.00 Braskfast in Bed (5867452), 9.00 Greatest His of. Movies (43458163), 8.30 Talk Music (9822076), 10.00 Something for the Weekand (47677502), 11.00 Classic 80s Chart (47687366), 12.00 Ten of the Best Huggy Saar (19845827), 1.00 Greatest His of. Disco (4768162), 1.30 Pop-Up Video: Women First Special (98858162), 2.00 Album Chart Show (17295085), 4.00 Disco Party Weekand (16839705), 8.00 Michight Special (86094347), 9.00 The Kale and Jono Show (93164821), 10.00 Bob Mile Big 80s (937909), 8.10 Virt. VH-1 6.00 No Naked Flames (710°827) 6.30 On the Make [1773°228], 6.45 its in the Jeans (22235453) 7.00 USA High (3765852), 7.30 USA High (3765889), 8.00 Blast (7782328), 8.30 High (3765899), 8.30 High (3765999), 8.30 High (37659999), 8.30 High (37659999), 8.30 High (37659999), 8.30 High (37659999), 8.30 High (376599999), 8.30 High (37659999999999999999999

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

HTV WALES

As LWT except: 12.30 Movies, Games and Videos (3/250), 1.05 HTV News and Weather (1546881), 2.15 Prate TV (334569), 2.45 ri5468811, 2.45 Pratie TV (334569, 2.45 Warner Brothers Carbook (59045), 2.55 Airwolf Action adventure series about a hi-leich heteopter and its herior pilot (6804786), 3.50 TimeCop Sto-fi series about a cop who tres to prevent crimnals from using time travel to alter the past and change the world (7846908, 5.05 HTV Wales News and Sports Results (9623348), 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (103038), 2.50 Bio. Office America (4/46767), 3.45 World Fronthalf (99481), 3.45 CD LM (1557125), 4.40 Football (3994), 3.45 CD UK (1567)25), 4.40 Pushing the Limits - the Making of Eraser (42985941) 6.05 ITV Nightscreen (9372125).

HTV WEST

As HTV Wales except: 12.30 Bissed Out. Sense in which members of the public get a chance to prove themselves in the media. In this chaince to prove herriselves in the head. In his edition, three more people compete to present the programme with Vanessa Bewley and Smon Yinght near week. (30250), 2.15 Movies, Games and Videos (334569), 2.45 Prate TV (325540), 3.15 Warner Brothers Cartoon (544366), 3.25 Dinosaurs (5439637), 5.05 HTV West News and Sports Results (5803368).

MERIDIAN

As LWT except: 12.30 Per Pressure. The programme that presents the arts from a youthful point of view with fast-moving up-to-the-minute reports on top bands, events and

trends. (30250). 1.05 Mendian News and Weether (15468811). 2.15 The Willis Compo Weether (5469871), 235 The Wills Combon Army and Navy Challenge (98487078), 5.05 Mentian Navis and Weather (9623369), 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (4103038), 2.50 Box Office America (4746767), 3.45 World Football (3994), 3.45 CD UK (1567125), 4.40 Pushing the Limits the MaAing of Eraser (42985841), 5.05 ITV Nightscreen (9372125). WESTCOUNTRY

As LWT except: 12.30 Moves, Games and Videos (30250), LDS Westcourtry News (546881), 2.35 Power Rangers in Space Specia. A four-edition special of the edvertures with the Power Rangers as they travel to the furthest reaches of space on their never-ending quest for peace. (325250). 3.55 TimeCop (7150453) 5.05 Westcountry News (9823366). 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (#103038) 2,50 Box Office America (496767), 3,15 World Football (39341). 3,45 CD UK (19871251 4-40 Pushing the Limits the Melang of Eraser (42985941), 5,05 ITV Nightscreen (9372125) YORKSHIRE

As LWT except: 12.30 Dinosaurs (30250). 1.05 Calendar News and Weather (15468811). 5.05 Calendar News and Weather (4020732). 5.30 Goals Extra (5161908). TYNE TEES As Yorkshire except: 1.05 North East News and Weather (154689TI), 5.05 North East News and Weather (4020732), 5.10 Full Time (5161905).

As Channel 4 except: 12.00 Film: Waterloo.

Rod Starger imperious as Napoleon, bouncing back from exile on Elba to take on the English in

a meeting heavy with foreboding. The climactic battle is fruly comething to behold (though horse lovers may blanche). With Christopher Plummer, Jack Hawkins. (71613095), 5-05. Newyddion (4184618), 5-30. Y Clwb Rygbl. (3771801), 7-45. Newyddion (68462989), 8-00. Llwyfan (4134329), 8-30. Dilyn Ddoe (41356163), 9-00. Dan vr Wyneb (90296329, 8-30. lectryd Da (70347960), 10-15. NYPD Blue. The detectives question a group of unsavoury suspects after a well-dressed man is found dead in a park. The squad thes to stay optimistic as Samone is told that he will require a heart transplam. (43819502), 11-10. Ardat D'Hanton Live (289863-7), 12-10. The Sundays (4303167), 11-5. 4 Later; West Heath Yard (18620309), 1-45. 4 Later; Mirrorball (18620309), 1-45. 4 Later; Mirrorball (18620309), 1-75. Heath Yard (19620309), 1-75. Heath Yard Strange O Program. Cultural review includes Alexander Shulgin charting about psychedelete

RADIO

RADIO 1 (976-99.BMHz FM)

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7.00 Mark Goodier. 10.00 Chris Moyles. 1.00 Emma B at BBC Fashion Week. 3.00 Radio 1's R 'n' B Chart. 5.00 Judge Jules, 7.00 Danny Ramping - Lovegroom Dance Party, 9.00 Westwood - Redio 1 Rap Show, 12.00 Radio 1 Reggae Dancehal Nite. 2.00 The Essential Mix on Tour. 4.00 - 6.30 Annie Nightingale. RADIO 2 (88-90.2MHz FM)

6.00 Mo Dutta. 8.05 Brian Matthew. 10.00 Steve Wright's Saturday Show.
1.00 Talking Cornedy. 1.30 News Huddines. 2.00 Alan Freeman. 3.30 Johnnie Walker. 5.30 Paul Gambaccini. 7.00 The Byrds Have Flown. See Pick of the Day. 8.00 Culture Club in Concert. 9.00 Reading Music. 10.00 Bob Harris. 1.00 Nicky Home. 4.00 - 7.00 Mo Dutta. RADIO 3

(902-924MHz FM) 6.00 On Air. 9.00 CD Review 12.00 Private Passions. 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. (R) 2.00 Listeners' Choice. 4.00 Best of 3.

5.00 Jazz Record Requests.
6.00 Performance on 3. More from the Encless Parade festival celebrating British postwar music. Vaughan Williams's Three Shakespeare Songs are a classic example of British choral music composed after 1945. Stephen Cleabury per-forms them at the Royal Festival Hall with the BBC Singers, along with newer works demonstrating the richness and diversity of the British choral scene.

7.00 Fred Hersch. 7.30 Performance on 3. Live from the Royal Festival Hall, London, Endless Parade' continues with a new BBC Symphony Orchestra commission from David Bedford alongside classice from the lifties end seventies. Walton's second symphony was premiered in 1960; Britten dedicated his late masterpiece of 1975 - the dramatic cantata Phaedra' - to Janet Saker; and Tippett's Triple Concerto of 1979 reflects in its slow movement the composer's then recent discovery of Javanese music. Louise Winter (mezzo), Enesco Trio, BBC Symphony Orchestra/Nicholas Cleobury. David Bedford: The Sultan's Turret (BBC commission). Tippett: Triple Concerto.

8.15 Anglophiles. Foreign-born artists and nkers choose their favourite examples of British achievements in the postwar 8.35 Concert, part 2. Britten: Cantata 'Phaedra', Walton; Symphony No 2.

9.40 A Price Worth Paying. A five-part series in which former Radio 3 controller John Drummond takes a critical look at the state of opera in Britain since 1945. 4: 'The Skies Darken'. A look at the contentious issue of funding. Should this relatively expensive form of antertainment continue to attract public subsidy? With the views of George Christie (who runs Glyndebourne Festival Opera without the benefit of public funding), John Tooley and the Earl of Harewood (both lormer administrators of London's major opera houses), Nicholas Payne (who has recently left Covent Garden for English National Opera), and critic Rodney Milnes. 10.40 Dvorak. String Sextet in A. Op 48. Endelion Quartet and friends. (R) 10,45 Mixing It. Robert Sandall and Mark Russell with an eclectic mix of new music. Guest interviewer Clive Bell talks to David Sylvian, one-time vocalist with rock group Japan, about his new solo album 'Dead Bees on a Cake', which features leading

musicians including Ryuichi Sakamoto. Marc Ribot and Talvin Singh. 11.30 Jazz on 3. 100 - 6.00 Through the Night. RADIO 4 (924-94.6MHz FM) 5.00 News Briefing 6.05 Sports Desk. 6.10 Open Country. 6.57 Weather. 7.80 Today. B.OD Home Truths. 10.00 News; Loose Ends. 11.00 News; The Food Programme. 11.30 From Our Own Correspondent. +2.30 The News Quiz. 145 Any Questions?. 2.00 News; Any Answers?

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5.00 Saturday PM.

Rackrent.

2.30 To Be or Not to Be.

3.00 News; The Saturday Play: Castle

4.00 News; Weekend Woman's Hour.

PICK OF THE DAY HYPED AS America's answer to The

Beatles, the Byrds (right) caught the imagination of Californian hippies in the mid-Sixties. Their cover of Bob Dylan's "Mr Tambourine Man" marked the start of psychedelic rock music and, despite undergoing a series of line-up changes, they made some of the most influential records of the decade. Bob Harris traces their story in The Byrds Have Flown (7pm R2). FIONA STURGES

5.30 Talking Pictures.

5.57 Weather.

5.54 Shipping Forecast.

6.00 Six O'Clock News.

6.45 Hearing with Hegley. (R)

7.00 News: Saturdey Review. 7.45 Spering Sermons. In the last of

three programmes examining sport end

examines gamesmanship and nominates

visits the BBC sound archives to listen to

highlights of radio features that have excit-

ed him. 4. 'Wonderland'.
9.00 News; Classic Serial: Villette. By

Charlotte Bronte, dramatised in three parts by James Friel. 3: Monsieur Paul.

Lucy's passionate involvement with Mon-

sieur Paut deepens, but there are storms ahead. With Cathenne McCormack,

10.15 The 1999 Renth Lectures. Five lec-

ly, tradition and custom are in retreat

tures about aspects of globalisation given by Anthony Giddens. 3: 'Tradition', Global-

What are the consequences of this and of

comes from the Nehru Memorial Museum

the rise of fundamentalism? This lecture

and Library in Delhi and is followed by

questions from an invited audience.

Joseph Flennes and Harriet Walter.

10.00 News and Weather.

his world gamesmanship champion

Redeeming Features. Piers Piowright

8.00 News: The Archive Hour:

its place in our national life. Simon Barnes

6.15 The Now Show.



11.00 News; All the Rage, A lour-part senes teaturing musical anecdotes from decades past. 3: 1800-1810. David Owen Norris and guests Rachel Cowoil and Tim Blanning revisit the divas and dramas of

the first decade of the 19th century. Songs performed by Alison Wells. 11.30 Adventures in Poetry. 12.00 News 12.25 Experimental Feature: A Gentleman is Not a Pot. Exploring the writings of Confucius and their relevance to today's

12.30 The Late Story: Give Me My Wars. By Drran Adebayo, read by Eddie Nestor. A man with a secret reflects on the underactivevements of those in his neighbourbood (R) 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.50 - 6.00 Bells on Sunday.

RADIO 4 LW (196kHz) 12.00 - 12.04 News, Shipping Forecast. RADIO 5 LIVE (693, 909kHz MW I

6.00 Daty Tackle 6.30 Preakfast 9.00 Chiles on Saturday. 12.00 The Treatment

1.00 Sport on 5. Football: goal news, re ports and commentary on a top game in the Premiership. Fixtures include Middles brough v Arsenai, Blackburn v Liverpool. Spurs v West Ham, and Everton v Chariton. Pius news from the league. 6.06 Six-O-Six. 6.00 Move IL 8.30 Seven Brides for One Brother. (R) 9.00 Global 10.00 Late Night Currie. 1.00 Up A! Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

(100.0-101.9MHz FM) 5.00 Sareh Lucas, 6.00 Countdown, 11.00 Masters of Their Art. 12.00 Mike Read. 3.00 Margaret Howard. 6.00 Classic FM at the Movies. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Opera Guide. 10.00 The Classic Quiz. 12.00 Midnight Music. 2.00 Evening Concert. 4.00 - 6.00

CLASSIC FM

VIRGIN RADIO

(1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 1058MHz FM) 6.00 Pete and Geoff, 10.00 Harriet Scott. 2.00 Rock and Roll Football. 5.30 Wheels of Steel. 10.00 Janey Lee Grace. 2.00 - 6.00 James Merritt. **WORLD SERVICE RADIO**

1198kHz LW 1 1.00 The World Today. 1.30 Soundbyte. 1.45 Waveguide. 2.00 The World Today. 2.30 Music Review. 3.00 The World Today, 3.30 Business Review, 3.45 Letter from America. 4.00 World Today. 4.20 Sports Roundup. 4.30 Agenda. 5.00 The World Today. 5.30 - 6.00 Omnibus.

TALK RADIO 5.00 OK to Talk 8.00 Get Your Kit On with Bob Mills, 11.00 It's Round and White - with Torn Watt. 2.00 Saturday Soccer. 6.05 505 with Gary Newborn and Tom Watt. 7.30 Nancy Poberts. 10.00 Dave Barrett. 2.00 - 6.00



CONCISE CROSSWORD



ACROSS

Schooner (5) Ducks (8) Perfect (5) 10 Boundless (8) 11 Up above (5)

Watering place (3) 16 Balkan country (6) 17 Unstinting (6) 18 Young animal (3) 20 Beverage made from

apples (5) 24 Plaintive (8) 25 Filthy (5) 26 Abrupt (8) 27 Coin (5)

Beau (5) Instruct (5) French river (5) Part of foot (6) Sweetheart (4-4)

Marine echinoderm (8) 12 Killing (8) 13 Unvanguished (8) 14 Pouch (3) 15 Vestment (3)

19 Submarines (1-5) 21 Prank (5) 22 Animal organs (5) 23 Parcel out (5)

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword:

ACROSS: 1 Milling, 5 Hurry (Millinery), 8 Elbow, 9 Febrile, 10 Sugar beet, 12 Add, 13 Glossy, 14 Allied, 17 Guy, 18 Pyromania, 20 Lookout, 21 Alter, 23 Sheaf, 24 Hoedown, DOWN: 1 Meets, 2 Lob, 3 Inwards, 4 Gifted, 5 Habit, 8 Ruination, 7 Yielded, 11 Glory hole, 13 Goggles, 15 Limeade, 18 Wretch, 18 Proof 18 Armer 23 Too.

SATURDAY EVISION

REES

TELEVISION REVIEW JASPER

contracted to the

monning, "Oh Dad, do we have to go on another walk?"

So atthough she doubtless knowe that she's a lucky crow to have got the gig, it would topple the balance of the programme if she uppeared to enjoy hersoil Thus at leost a third of each episode is given over to Street footpaths as intrke map and as enemates ground. This week, in the footpath took a nounced vertical d

planet. In Northumberland, it was "a friend of mine" called Sting, Next week it's Etten John and here, pleasingly, it was Stephen Fry touring a school be was expelled from. The one hitch is the law of diminishing returns. There's more the walking returns. There's more the walking to be those in the and this week she spent time hiking untelegenically along noisy A realls.

My favourite bit was the cheese-lasting session out of the back of a van in a Leicestershire downpote. Street-Porter, with her strong views about trendy fromage, realised that she was starting to sound like Jilly Coolden. "I'd better put that funny voice on," said the woman whose strangeries." The other regular is the colch klot, slipped into the timerary tu suggest that Street-porter is meeting with equals rather than cadeling with equals rather than

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BBC

7.00 The Muneters (R) (T) (9519076), 7.25 (2443892), 7.30 Wiggly Park (3351540), 7. (2443892), 7.30 Wiggly Park (3351540), 7. 45 Conen the Adw (8849296), 8.10 The Silver Surfer (402534 Flintsionae (R) (9305811), 9.00 Escape fr (S) (7888434), 9.25 Praise (R) (S) (7857 Journey of Allen Strange (S) (6324095), 1 Valley High (3585502), 10.45 The Pop Z.

2.30 Around

6.15 City Centrel. Northern cop-shop dramo. A distrassed man arrives in reception clainling to have done eomething evil. DS Ray Pickaring, balleving him to be a hoexer, assigns him to rookle DC Mary Sutclifie to interview. Meanwhile, Debbie end Steva's plans for a romantic maal are scuppated (S) (T) (250637).

Jonethan Creek. Alen Davles, Caroline Ouentin end another of David Bernvick's characterful mysteries. They investiges when a £'m painting is cut from its frame and stolen by an "invisible" thief (R) (S) (T) (539786).

11.50 The Frenk Skinner Show (S) (T) (192811).

2.15 Top of the Pops (S) (T) (5808187).

2.50 Joine 6BC News 24 (92701125). To 640am

This new series, exclusive to UK Arena,

12.10 News | Weather (T) (9861640).

12.45 Grendstend (S) (9980811), 12.20 Footbal) Focus (1265502), 1.45 Athletica - Balmoral Road Recas (97958328), 1.40 Motor Sport (3035502), 2.30 Aroutha Grounds (5925724), 2.40 World Snookar Chempionship (5604281), 3.50 Football Half-Times (4734183), 4.00 Athletics - Balmoral Road Races (7275786), 4.40 Finot Scuro (7489610).

6.30 6)g Break. As if there wasn't enough snooker on the BBC today... Jim Davidson hosts mother round of his game show. Gueste ero Jason Fergueon and Ronnia O'Sullivan, if that makes any difference (S) [7] (845).

Girda of a Feether. Sharon is barrad from har homa One sympathises (R) (S) (T) (935260).

10.25 Newel Weether (1) (160144).

10.40 Metch of the Dey. Osemond Lynam, Alan Hansen and Trevor Brooking heve their eyes on the relegation tussle twixt Everton and Charlton (S) (1) (7289980).

12.20 Nijijiki Hustie (Robert Aldrich 1975 US). Grim, modern film noir in which a cynical cop investigatas tha murder of a prostituta. Saa Film of the Day, balow (T)

HISTORY PROGRAMME OF THE DAY

TIMEWATCH: THE CROSSING (0.15pm BBC2, right) Given a sont of targential topicality by the Nato hombing of the refugee convoy in Kosovo, this film examines a tragedy from the Second World War in the Pacific, when American submarines topedoed two Japanese ships enrying 2,000 British and Australian PoWs. Left tloahing in shark-infested waters, only half of them survived the attack. Two of these, Australian Bay Wheeler and former British gunner Will Barnett, return to the Far Fast to recall their nightmarish experience. And there's some extraordinary home-movic foolage filmed from the US

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talent. Tonight's guests include Faith Evans, with some of the labels most renowned R'n Bacts and celebrates the Motown legend features live performances from USA's hottest

Sugar Hill Gang and Bizzy Bone.

5.35 Newel Weethor (T) (033811). **5.45** Rogional Naws and Weether (535908).

5.50 Femilios at Wer. The Woolcoll hunly from Biggin Hill and the Moore family from Norlolk submit themselves to this Vic and Bob-Inspired lunecy (S) (T) (112057).

7,00 Witetevor You Went. Gaby Roslin fixas it for a wannaba television praseniar, a *Dr Wino* fan whod like to own his own dalak and thros women who want thair own celebrity spread in OK! megazina. Guesis are Another Level and Otis tha Aardvark (S) (7) (477434).

7.50 The Netional Lottery - We've Got Your Number. Brian Conley and more big-money balls (S) (T) (887328).

6.05 Open University: No Place to Hide (7861705).
6.30 Whose Body? (54317). 7.00 Talking about Care (34837). 7.30 Rousseeu in Africe: Democracy in the Meking (13144). 6.00 Weakend 24 (S) (98057). 9.00 Open Saturday (S) (68466182). 10.40 See Heor on Saturday (S) (4345811).

Stagey but appealing comady etarring Buri Luncaster as a dreamy commen who claims that he can make it rain in a drought-strickan Kansaa town, Katharina Hapburn is the spinstar who eatchea his oye (31363298)

1.25 IIIM The Soeiphuntere (Sythey Pollack 1960 US). Pollack assays his later movie Jevernich Johnson with this comedy western about a trapper who has boan forced to take on ox-slave - ployod by Ossila Davie - in return for his furs by some Rocky Mountain Indiana. Sholloy Wintors and Telly Suvillas are also hurdwood (T)

3.05 Space 1999 (T) (345/40). 3.55 TOTP 2 (S) (7471705)

4.40 World Snookor Championalip. Further coverage from the Crucible, Shatfield (S) (78521540).

6.30 A Little Piece of Home (H) (S) (654892)

7.30 Nows end Sport; Weathor (T) (151415).

7.45 History Zono: One Foot in the Past. Michael Elphick on the history of the "Glorious Goodwood" race maoting and Dan Cruickshank on Crornwellian maoting and Dan Cruickshal architecture (S) (T) (947102).

6.15 RATIONS Timewatch: The Croesing. Two survivors recell when their Japaness PoW transport si was hit by American lorpedoas in September 1944. Se History Progrenuma of the Day, bolow (S) (T) (258279)

9.05 World Snooker Chempionship. Continued coverage of the Embassy world champlonship from Sheffield (S) (31471989).

children spend the summer in their grandhollher's house near Nagasaki, istaning to har teles of 1945 when the Abomb alfack killed her husband. Thoy await the arrival of their Japanasa-Amarican uncle Richard Gere (Than Weelherview) (S) (370729). To 2em.

(68644434). 1.30

BBC2

G.40 ISINISS Correspondent: Slobe end Mira.
Reporter Phil Rees looks at the fizerro relationship tietwoen President Slobodon Milosevic and his wife.
Mira Markovic. Sea Documentary of the Day, below (S)

8.45 Sters in Their Eyes. A 72-year-old relired cabinal-maker from Northumberland trasts us to his Bing Crosby, while a receptioniet from Middlasex tribe it on with her Madonna. A chap claiming to be Matthew Keily is the compare (S) (T) (522366).

Here's the problem. A band of terroriste has hijacked a 747 eirlinar with 400 pessengars on board, their intention being to use it to eprey a nerve gas thet will wips out the east coast of America. Whatever your view. Special Forces hot-shots Kurt Russell and Steven Saegal have different ideas - and ensak on board via a Staellh bombar. Die Hard is the obvious template for the airborne tosh. An axecultye decleton with the remote control inlight be in order (S) (T) (774273).

Kurt Ruesell again, this time as Madeleine Stowe's husband. The couple have been threatened by a knitswelding Intruder. Enter friendly neighbourhood policemen Ray Liotta. Yee, well, quite (S) (T) (231540).

1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (R) (S) (T) (2308106). 3.35 Box Office Americe (44544854). To 4em. US). Odd schaduling for a Disney boy-and-dog movia, but there you go (1) (8547903).

1.30 CD UK (S) (92144): 12.30 Wannabe (S) (T) (30250). 1.00 ITV News; Weather (T) (15469540): 1.05 London Waekend Today (T) (1546861): 1.10 On the Bell (T) (2841927): 1.45 NBA '99 (T) (302960).

(15) Men About the House (John Robins 1974 (K). The inevitable (and inavitably awful) big-screen version of a sitcom that has otherwise held up surprisingly well over the pessing decades. The Ropers are planning to sall up – can flatsharing tananta Richard O'Sullivan, Paulin Wilcox and Selly Thomsett stop tham? (214788).

The Cureo of Mr 6een. They said it. Rowan Nikhson's muts walking disaster attempts to park the car and go swimming (R) (921144).

6.15 You've Been Fremedi Lisa Rilay presents some more hilarious outtakes from "your homa videoa". Sinca moat of them appear to be American, this seems unlikaly (S) (T) (473705).

Gillad Date. Mora sofa-bound unreconcilable differences from Cilla Black and her Graham. Leonie and David report back from Stockholm, while Richard and Janine telk us through their trip to Cepe Town (S) (T) (4278).

).00 ITV Newej Weether; Lottery Result (T) (570811).

10.30 Eddle izzard - Olorloue. Tossiere, shower unite and the origins of lime are among the subjects slighted upon by Eddle izzard when his stand-up show reached London's Hammeremith Apollo last year (R) (7292434).

11.35 The Sundeye (357366). 12.40 4 Later: West Heath Yard (T) (2811854). 110 Mirrorbell (107565)). 44

Tauf (Andrew Lau 1994 HK). Jacky Cheung is the herd-kicking undercover agent who gets sucked into the Triad lifestyle ha is investigeting in this lively chunk of martialaris smash-bang-wallop (362351).

Eerly Edition (S) (560162), **4.45** (TV News; Sports Rosulls; Wanther (T) (2618144), **5.05** London Weekand Tunight (T) (9823366), **5.20** The New Addense Family (S) (T) (2999279),

7.00 Right to Reply. Rogar Bolton filters viewere complaints. Phona 0890 044444 for a say (T) (3142).

7.30 The Estebilshment. Photographer Nick Danziger continues his snapshot of the British astablishment by henging out with Peler Stothard, editor of The Times

Whaelar's programmas looke at J Edgar Hoover's attempts to discradit Martin Luther King using whre-taps and bugging. Phone conversations between President Johnson and Hoover reveal the tengits they were prepared to go to to stop a man Hoover balleved was e communist stoogs. But than Hoover believed that averybody was a communist etoogs (1669).

9.00 Freeler. A dielraught Niles has to cope will tha fact that Daphne is deting his divorce attorney (R) (S) (T)

9.30 Ardel O'Hanion Live. 'A one-off comsdy epecie) featuring the Father Ted star and recorded et Dublin's Galety Theetre (R) (T) (91415).

3.25 4 Leter: Dprogrem (4895496). **4.35** 4 Later: The Clangers (83575380). **4.50** 4 Later: Nightlife Lagenda (33097564). To 5.15am.

.00 OMTV (2502892).

.25 SMTV Live. Fierca and 911 are Ant end Dac's guests (S) (15633347).

(R) (2457055). **7.05** The Trap Door (2465368). **710** T4: Bush Tales (R) (2457055). **7.05** The Trap Door (2465368). **710** T4: Dig, Dug end Dalsy (R) (S) (5080076). **7.25** The Maglic Roundabout (R) (2436502). **7.30** T4: Home to Hent (S) (T) (31540). **8.00** T4: Transworld Sport (R) (16453). **9.00** Morning Line (S) (26278). **10.00** Inside Rugby with Thierry Lacroix (37724). **11.00** Gazzetta Football Itelia

12.00 Allin Arebian Adventure (Kevin Connor 1979 UK).
Remembar Oliver Toblas? Hera le the lad, as a prince batiling evil callph Christophar Lee for the hand of Emma Samms in a ho-hum Arabian Nights adventure with requisits genias and flying carpets (540347).

2.20 Chennel 4 Racing from Sendown Perk and Leicester. Sandown hosis the Whitbraed Gold Cup 3.30pn, as well on the 250, 4.10 and 4.45pm races. Leicester provides two races, at 2.30 and 4.30pm (6.3367892). 1.50 Driven. Second-hand motoring magazine (16622163).

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5.05 Brookeide Omnibus. All the week's Lindsey action in full as eha goes Lethal Weapon 4 egainst the Finnigane (R) (S) (1) (8408328).

6.30 Channel 4 News Weather. Presented by Jon Snow and including all Saturday's eporting newe (T) (705). 5.55 5 News and Sport (S) (T) (3665521).
6.00 Hercules: the Legendery Journeys. Classicists should probably avoid this hotch-poich of legand, history and myth for their own peace of mind. This week, Hercules descends to the netherworld to rescue the daughter of the goddees Cerneter (4941873).

8.55 Night Fever. Suggs hoste the karacke entertainment show, with team captains Tony Blackburn and Katle Pucknik; 9tt provide the musical interlude (R) (S) (3)70183).

7.50 5 News and Sport (S) (T) (4623705).

8.05 Corring Dieasters. The threat of volcances is the latest subject covered by this apocalyptic documentery series (4488144).

Married Gregory Harrison goes on a businese trip with his mistrese, only to discover that sha is e drugs emuggier. Har activities result in his shooting a Drug Enforcement Aganoy man in self-defence. Wracked with guift, he returns home, only to find himself baing blackmailed over the killing. You see, viewers, you should never stray from the marital bed (1) (49780095).

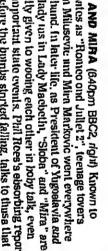
10.50 Love Street. A couple wager that they can both give up sax for a month (41745).

11.30 IIIM Nittl – the Enforcer (Michael Switzer 1988 US). The rise and fatt of Al Capone's enforcer. Anthony LaPaglia gets to utter the pangster clichés (3136328). 1.20 IIIM Froatfire (Devid Greane 1994 Can). An Inuit Investigates the mystarious cover-up of e deadly illness in the northern Arctic (4643477).

3.00 Tallia Tomorrow We Live (Georga King 1943 UK). French Raeistanca heroica (4105038). To 4.90am.

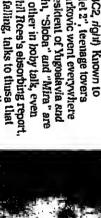
TELEVISION GUIDE BY GERARII GILBERT





SLOGA AND MIRA (640pm BBC2, right) Known to school unites as "Romeo and Juliet 2", teenage tovers

later life, as President of Yugoslavia and In Lady Maebeth, "Sloba" and "Mira" are to wooing each other in boby talk, even state events. Phil Rees's absorbing report, bunds started falling, talks to thuse that could woo father was wazis mul whose father was chumany with



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FILM OF THE DAY

HUSTLE (12.20am BBC1 right) Ulzana's Raid (10.45pm BBC21 is probably the more accomplished of the two Robert Aldrich movies on today, but Hustle is less often screened. For the director of Kiss Me Deadly, It was a return to the film noir territory that first made Aldrich's name in the 1950s, as Burt Reynolds's cynical cop teams up with a beautiful call girl tshades of Hustle's near contemporary, Klute, here) to solve the murder of a small-lime prostitule. Catherine Deneuve lends a cold European glemour to the surrounding murkinss as Reynolds progresses through the Los Angeles



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THE WEEKEND REVIEW

hannel 4

6.00 00 6eestly Briteln (B) (S) (6440618). 6.30 Was it Good for You? (R) (S) (4618540). 7.00 5 News end Sport (S) (2320569). 7.30 Milkshakel (S) (218927). 7.35 Milmzle's House (R) (4532540). 8.00 Leasle (R) (S) (8312873). 8.30 Wishbone (R) (8311144). 9.00 The End Blyton Sacret Series (R) (S) (8335724). 9.30 Roobarb (R) (S) (2464276). 9.40 Pitch, Hit and Run (8280927). 10.00 Witchworld (4607692). 10.30 Loggerhaads (R) (S) (8331908). 11.00 The Pepsi Chert (1544873). 11.30 Bang Liberty (154502). 12.00 Pacific Bite (2666637). 12.55 Beauty end the Beast (R) (5580786). 1.50 5 News (S) (T) (84309434).

2.00 Suncet Seach Omnibus (R) (S) (T) (3647927).

4.30 Singled Out. The return of the deling show (S) (6698144).

5.00 Derie. New US enimation ebout e daadpen, sharp-witted teenager. Aa it (S) (98633980).

9.25 The Tribe. New post-apocalyptic children's drama, describad as "Lord of the Files for the millandium", ebout a mysterious virus that wipes out adults. The surviving children form thamselves into tribes (98843347).

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